the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
RAMOS 2020
delgado
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MARVEL
GREEN GOBLIN RETURNS

AMAZING

The Sin-Eater is back and more dangerous than ever. After using Norah Winters' Threats & Menaces site to broadcast his manifesto, he has started gathering a flock.

Sin-Eater is "cleansing" criminals of their sins, leaving them completely reformed and desperate to make amends. Spider-Man believed Sin-Eater's first victim, Overdrive, was the exception to this rule. Carlie Cooper revealed that vengeful cops actually attacked Overdrive in the hospital. This was not Sin-Eater's doing.

Desperate, Spidey broke up a gathering of Sin-Eater's recruits. But Sin-Eater completely outclassed the wall-crawler with stolen powers taken from "cleansed" super villains.

Now Sin-Eater's revealed his next target: Spider-Man's archnemesis – Norman Osborn!

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

GREEN GOBLIN RETURNS

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AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #48

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AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: THE SINS OF NORMAN OSBORN

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AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #49

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"ALL YOU NEED IS..."

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"ALL YOU NEED IS..."

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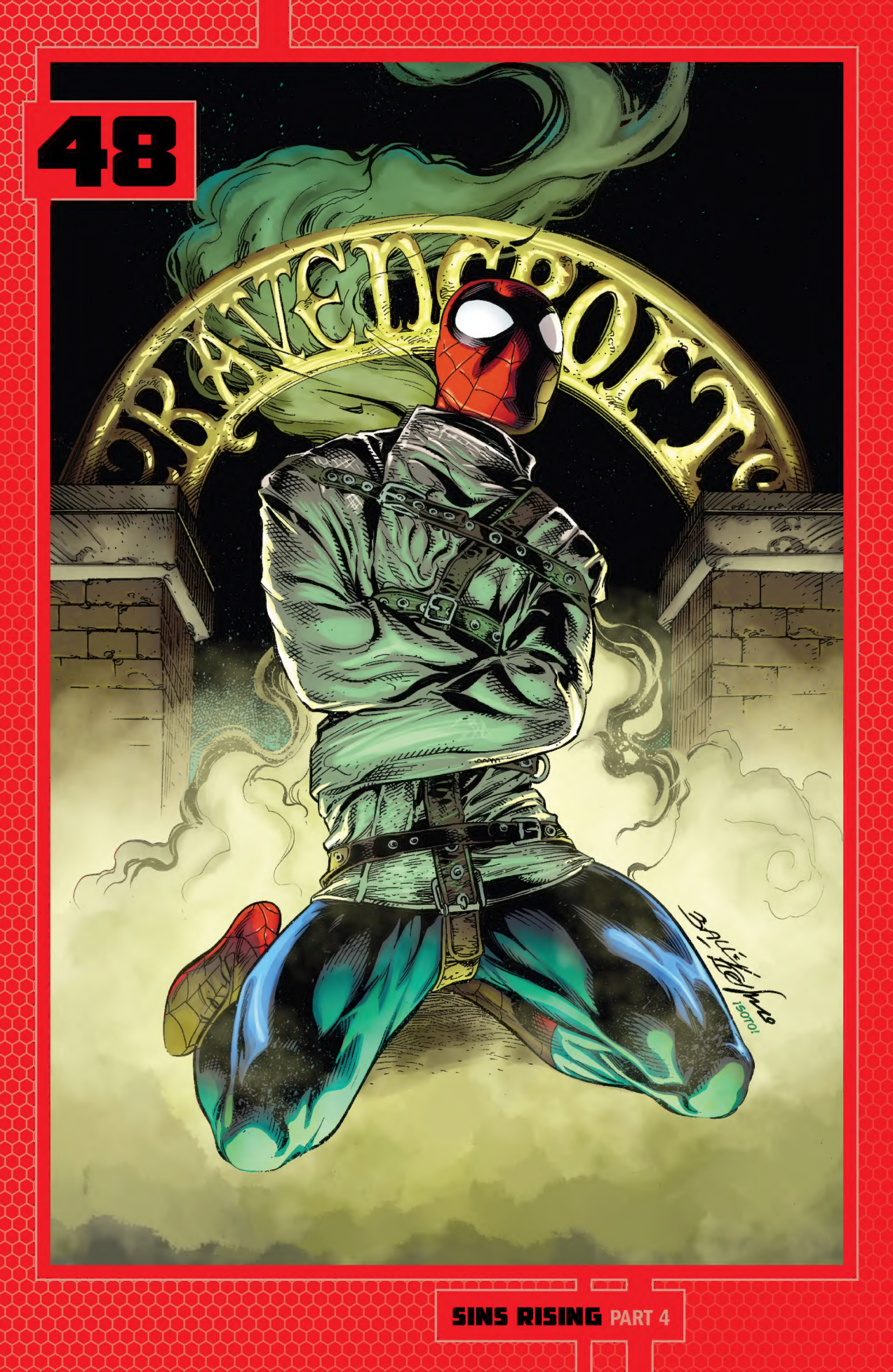

48
RAVENCROFT
¡SOTO!

THE SIN-EATER...
HE'S WINNING.
THE NUMBER OF HIS FOLLOWERS KEEPS GROWING--
--AND NOW THEY'RE MAKING THEIR PRESENCE FELT ALL ACROSS THE CITY.
GOING FORWARD, DOING THEIR NEWFOUND LEADER'S WORK--
--AND THEN SOME.

THEY'RE GOING AFTER ANYONE THEY BELIEVE IS GUILTY OF SIN.
EVEN AMONG THEIR OWN RANKS, THE DEFINITION SEEMS TO VARY QUITE A BIT.
MOST OF THE TIME IT SEEMS LIKE THE ACCUSED'S BIGGEST SIN IS BEING DIFFERENT FROM THEIR ACCUSER IN SOME WAY.
ONE THING THAT'S STRIKINGLY SIMILAR, THOUGH--
--IS HOW IT ENDS.
THEY'RE SUDDENLY EVERYWHERE, ALL AT ONCE. MORE THAN I CAN HANDLE--
--SO I CALL ON A FRIEND FOR HELP.
MILES MORALES, A.K.A. SPIDER-MAN.

SO LETTING PEOPLE HIDE BEHIND MASKS AND GO AFTER WHOEVER THEY DON'T LIKE TURNED OUT TO BE PRETTY POPULAR, HUH?
THWAK
THAM
OBVIOUSLY.
KUNK
WHO KNEW?
THUD
YEAH. I GUESS I'D FEEL LIKE A HYPOCRITE--
THWIP
--IF THESE GUYS WEREN'T MAKING IT SO EASY TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE.
THWIP
YOU AND THE GUY BEHIND ALL THIS--YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF HISTORY, RIGHT?
YEAH. BEFORE YOUR TIME.
WHAT'S HE DRIVING AT? WHAT DOES HE WANT?
A WORLD WITHOUT SIN...
YOU KNOW WHAT HE'S ABOUT TO DO.
OUR MASTER IS GOING TO FINISH THE JOB YOU NEVER COULD...
WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT?
YEAH, THIS IS WHERE IT GETS EVEN WORSE.
WHILE SOME OF HIS FOLLOWERS WRECK MANHATTAN, SIN-EATER HAS HIS OWN TARGET TO CLEANSE NEXT--

--NORMAN OSBORN.
THE GREEN GOBLIN.
THE MAN WHO'S TAKEN EVERYTHING FROM ME BEFORE.
THE MAN I HATE MOST IN THIS WORLD.
AND THE CURRENT HEAD OF THE RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE.
EVERYTHING SIN-EATER HAS DONE SO FAR HAS BEEN TRYING TO PUSH ME TO MY LIMITS--
--NOW HE'S ABOUT TO PUSH ME RIGHT PAST THEM.
DIRECTOR!

WHAT'S THIS NOW?
WE NEED TO EVACUATE YOU, SIR.
"OUR MEN AT THE GATES DON'T THINK THEY'LL BE ABLE TO HOLD ALL THE SIN-EATER'S FORCES OFF--
"--AND WE'RE EXPERIENCING DISRUPTIONS OF OUR OWN AMONG THE PATIENTS."
PLEASE, SIR, WE HAVE TO HURRY--
NONSENSE, CAPTAIN.
WHILE I APPRECIATE THE CONCERN, I WON'T BE GOING ANYWHERE...
RAVENCROFT IS MINE.
AND LEST WE FORGET...
"WE HAVE PLENTY OF WEAPONS AT OUR DISPOSAL."
KTOOM

NORMAN OSBORN?!
HE'S GOING AFTER NORMAN OSBORN?!
YEAH.
PETE--
YOU HAVE TO LET HIM.
MILES, YOU KNOW I CAN'T DO THAT--
WHY NOT?! I SAW THE STUFF ON T&M. HE'S NOT KILLING THEM, HE'S JUST-- JUST--
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING TO THEM.
I KNOW THAT NEFARIA DUDE WENT FROM BEING AN INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST TO A GUY WHO KNITS A LOT.
IF THIS SIN-EATER CAN DO THAT TO OSBORN--AFTER EVERYTHING HE'S DONE--MAYBE SOME GOOD CAN COME OUT OF THIS AFTER ALL.
HIS FOLLOWERS JUST TRIED TO BLOW UP A MOSQUE.
YEAH. HE'S A BAD GUY, I GET IT. WE NEED TO STOP HIM.
BUT MAYBE WE JUST LET HIM DO HIS THING ON NORMAN FIRST, THEN WE STOP HIM. WIN-WIN.
LOOK, PETE-- YOU AND I HAVE COME ACROSS MORE THAN ONE NORMAN OSBORN. AND MAYBE I DON'T KNOW THIS ONE AS WELL AS YOU DO...
...BUT THERE'S ANOTHER ONE I'LL NEVER FORGET. THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM--

"IT WAS SORT OF THE FIRST TIME I MET YOU TOO."
NOW, I GET IT. ALTERNATE OSBORNS AND ALL. BUT THE LONGER I'M HERE, I REALIZE THINGS ARE MORE THE SAME THAN DIFFERENT.
SO MAYBE THEN IT WAS ANOTHER PETER. BUT WHAT IF NEXT TIME...
I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN TO YOU, MAN.
I APPRECIATE THAT, MILES. I REALLY DO. BUT IF THAT IS WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN--
AT LEAST I ALREADY KNOW SOMEBODY WILL BE THERE TO STEP UP WHEN I'M GONE.
HEY, I'M ALREADY STEPPING UP!
I'M STEPPED!

HATE TO SAY IT, BUT MILES DOES HAVE A POINT.
WHETHER IT'S THE GREEN GOBLIN OR NORMAN OSBORN--
--IT'S NOT HARD TO SEE HOW THIS STORY EVENTUALLY ENDS.
YES, I'VE MANAGED TO GET THE BEST OF HIM SO FAR, BUT EACH TIME I FACE HIM--
--HE KEEPS FINDING NEW WAYS TO BECOME MORE DEADLY-- MORE DANGEROUS.
HOW LONG BEFORE MY ALREADY TERRIBLE LUCK RUNS OUT?
THEN AGAIN--

--MAYBE HIS LUCK WILL RUN OUT FIRST.
NORMAN OSBORN!
I KNOW YOU CAN SEE US NOW!
AND SOON, YOU WILL FEEL OUR WRATH. WON'T HE, MY FRIENDS? BUT BEFORE WE CAN BEGIN--
--I MADE YOU A PROMISE, DIDN'T I?
LAY YOUR HANDS UPON ME, ALL OF YOU-- RECEIVE THIS GIFT--

--ACCEPT YOUR CALLING, AS I ACCEPTED MINE.
GOOD. GOOD.
NOW GO FORWARD IN MY NAME--
--AND CLEANSE.
SO YEAH, THIS MIGHT BE MY LIFE OR HIS. THAT'S NOT A GOOD ENOUGH REASON FOR ME, THOUGH.
I TAKE THAT RISK EVERY DAY DOING THIS. AND I DO IT TO TRY AND STAND FOR SOMETHING.
IF I GIVE UP ON THOSE BELIEFS JUST TO SAVE MYSELF, WHAT WAS EVEN THE POINT?

BUT I'M NOT THE ONLY LIFE IN QUESTION HERE.
NOT BY A LONG SHOT.
NORMAN OSBORN HAS KILLED SO MANY PEOPLE I CARE ABOUT--
FRIENDS...
...ALLIES...
...EVEN...
SNAP

...GWEN?
WOW, PETE. YOU LOOK AWFUL.
INSERT LINE ABOUT SEEING A GHOST HERE. BA-DUMP-PA.
--I'M STILL GETTING USED TO IT.
YEAH, NOT THE SAME GWEN, OBVIOUSLY.
THE MARY JANES
THIS ONE'S FROM A DIFFERENT DIMENSION--
--WITH A VERY DIFFERENT STORY. TRUTH BE TOLD--
OKAY, SO, THIS IS A LITTLE WEIRD.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TEXTED ME, REMEMBER?
OH YEAH.
YOU TALKED TO MILES.
HE'S REALLY WORRIED ABOUT YOU--

--HE THINKS YOU MIGHT BE ABOUT TO MAKE A BIG MISTAKE.
EVERYBODY DOES.
I DUNNO, NOT ME. SOUNDS LIKE A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL.
REALLY? BECAUSE--AND PLEASE, DON'T PUNCH ME FOR THIS--WELL... LOOK, I KNOW YOU ARE NOT MY GWEN STACY, AND I AM NOT YOUR PETER PARKER. I GET THAT.
BUT RIGHT NOW?
RIGHT NOW I JUST REALLY NEED TO KNOW WHAT SHE WOULD WANT ME TO DO--
--AND YOU ARE THE CLOSEST I CAN GET TO HAVING AN ANSWER.
I NEVER LOVED ANYBODY BEFORE GWEN.
THEN HE MURDERED HER.
AND EVEN BEFORE THAT, THERE ARE THINGS I KEEP TRYING TO FORGET.
THAT DAY, HOLDING HER THERE, I SHOOK MY FIST AND SWORE--
I SWORE I WOULD DO SOMETHING AND I DIDN'T... I TRIED, BUT I--
--SOMETIMES I KEEP MYSELF UP AT NIGHT WONDERING IF SHE'S WAITING FOR ME TO DO TO HIM WHAT I PROMISED.

YOU KNOW, IT CAN GET A LITTLE WEIRD LIVING HALF THE TIME IN A WORLD WHERE YOU'RE *BURIED* SOMEWHERE.
GOTTA FIND WAYS TO MAKE PEACE WITH IT.
THE TOUGHEST PART, REALLY, IS DEALING WITH PEOPLE WHO PRIMARILY KNOW YOU, OR *REMEMBER* YOU, BECAUSE OF YOUR *DEATH.*
THEY ALL PRETEND TO KNOW THIS ANGELIC, IDEALIZED GWEN. THE PERFECT GIRL. THE TRAGIC VICTIM. BUT THAT'S DEFINITELY NOT WHO I AM--
--AND I DOUBT *YOURS* WAS *EITHER.*
SHE WASN'T THE SUBPLOT IN YOUR STORY OR ANYONE ELSE'S. HOWEVER SHE ENDED UP HERE, ON THIS BRIDGE, THAT WAS HER LIFE, GOOD AND BAD. SHE *OWNED* IT.
YOU'VE GOT A TOUGH CHOICE TO MAKE HERE-- BUT IT'S *YOUR* CHOICE NOW.
MY CHOICE--

--AND IT'S NOT GETTING ANY EASIER.
I TOLD YOU-- NONE OF THIS IS NECESSARY.
THEY'VE BREACHED THE FACILITY SIR. WHATEVER HE DID TO HIS FOLLOWERS, THEY'RE UNSTOPPABLE NOW. WE NEED TO AT LEAST GET YOU TO A SAFE--
UNFF!
IDIOT! LOOK OUT!
WHY IS THIS SO HARD FOR ME?
WHY CAN'T I JUST THROW HIM TO THE WOLVES?
FEELS LIKE EVERYTHING IS CLOSING IN AROUND ME--
--AND I'M TRAPPED NO MATTER WHICH WAY I GO.
OH, NORMAN...

WHY DOES IT ALWAYS HAVE TO BE YOU?
SOME PEOPLE MIGHT CALL IT DESTINY.
JULIA?! HOW DID YOU--
OH. RIGHT.
JULIA CARPENTER.
SHE USED TO BE SPIDER-WOMAN--WELL, A SPIDER-WOMAN--UNTIL A CLAIRVOYANT WITH LINKS TO THE WEB OF LIFE AND DESTINY PASSED ON HER POWERS TO HER--
--MAKING HER THE NEW MADAME WEB.
I'M HERE BECAUSE THE WEB TELLS ME THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE, PETER. AND THE OUTCOME OF ALL OF IT REMAINS... FRUSTRATINGLY UNCLEAR TO ME.
THE SIN-EATER, WHO TERRIFIES YOU, IS MAKING A MOVE ON THE MAN YOU FEAR MOST IN THIS WORLD. AND YOU, WELL... YOU'RE YOU.
PARALYZED BY A MIX OF DOUBT, GUILT, AND RESPONSIBILITY.
I ASSUME THE INNER NARRATION MUST BE OVERWHELMING.
I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

OKAY, THEN, LET'S JUST WALK THROUGH IT TOGETHER.
YOU'VE ALREADY CONSIDERED HOW *DANGEROUS* HE IS. HOW EVERY TIME YOU FACE HIM, YOU'RE PLAYING WITH DEATH.
YOU SHRUG THAT OFF. YOU'RE NOT WORRIED ABOUT YOURSELF. YOU'LL TAKE THAT CHANCE.
BUT THEN YOU'RE HAUNTED BY THE MEMORY OF ALL THE *INNOCENT PEOPLE* WHO HAVE *DIED* AT OSBORN'S HAND.
THE ONES YOU *LOVED*, ESPECIALLY. YOU FEEL THAT HURT *EVERY DAY*.
YOU WON'T LET THAT PAIN DECIDE FOR YOU, EITHER, THOUGH. THIS ISN'T ABOUT *REVENGE*. IT *CAN'T* BE.
SO NOW YOU FIND YOURSELF AT THE LAST QUESTION, THE ONE YOU JUST CAN'T GET PAST.
IT WOULD ALL BE SO MUCH EASIER IF THE SIN-EATER WANTED TO KILL HIM--
--BUT HE WANTS TO *CURE* HIM.
YOU KNOW THAT'S A *TRAP*. THAT THERE'S SOMETHING SINISTER AND IMMORAL ABOUT WHAT HE'S DOING. EVEN STILL, NORMAN OSBORN, MADE HARMLESS--
--HOW MANY *LIVES* WOULD THAT SAVE?
BECAUSE I DON'T NEED MY POWERS TO TELL YOU, PETER--THAT MAN, AS LONG AS HE WALKS THE EARTH AS IS, I CAN PROMISE YOU--
--HE *WILL* KILL AGAIN.

SHE'S RIGHT, OF COURSE.
THE ONLY QUESTION IS WHEN.
WHEN DOES THE MONSTER COME BACK OUT?
WHEN DOES HE COME FOR SOMEONE ELSE YOU LOVE?
SOMEONE...

KRAK
GET YOUR HANDS OFF-- WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE, NORMAN?
KRAK
I'M RESCUING YOU.

HE ACTUALLY WENT.
CAN'T SAY I'M SURPRISED.
I THOUGHT I'D GOTTEN THROUGH. I THOUGHT I UNDERSTOOD HIM.
THAT'S IT, THEN.
IF THE GHOSTS OF CHRISTMAS PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE ACT DIDN'T GET THROUGH, NOTHING WILL.
MAYBE--
--BUT THERE ARE *OTHER* WAYS WE COULD'VE DONE THIS. PERIOD.
I THINK SHE MEANS WE SHOULD'VE ***BEATEN HIM UP.***
NO. HE HAD TO MAKE HIS CHOICE. NOW WE HAVE TO MAKE OURS.
I THINK WE ALL KNOW WHAT HAS TO BE DONE HERE--

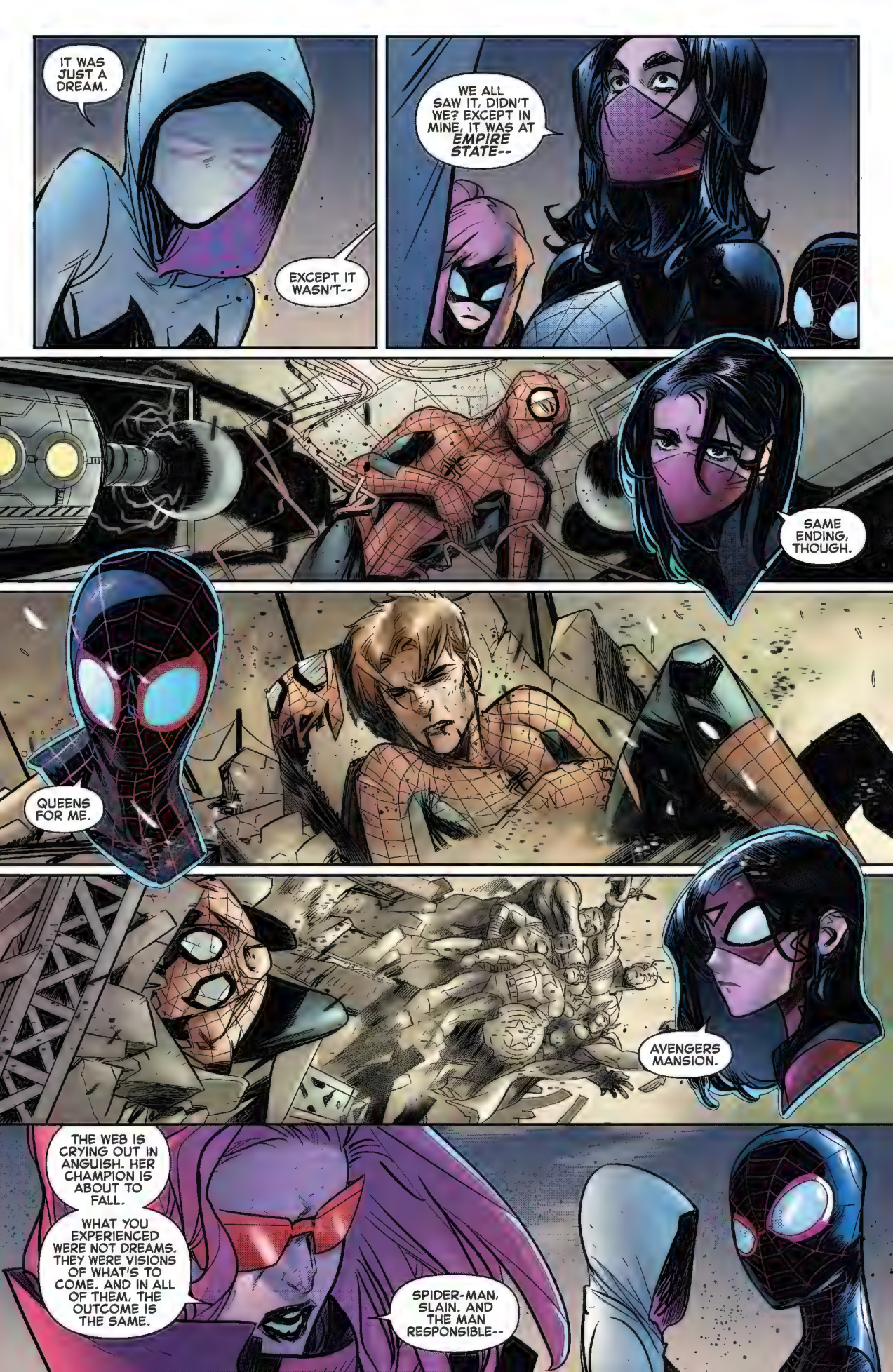
WE HAVE TO STOP SPIDER-MAN.

THE SINS OF NORMAN OSBORN

PREVIOUSLY IN THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN:
IN A RECENT DREAM, PETER PARKER WAS BURIED ALIVE.
WOULDN'T TAKE FREUD TO POINT OUT SIMILARITIES TO SPIDER-MAN'S LIFE...
THE SIN-EATER WAS BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE AND HAS BEEN WALKING THE STREETS OF NYC, CAUSING BIGGER PROBLEMS THAN EVER.
EACH TIME HE PULLED THE TRIGGER ON A SUPER VILLAIN, SIN-EATER GAINED NOT ONLY THEIR POWERS, BUT UNPOWERED CIVILIAN FOLLOWERS WHO DON'T WANT THE SPREE TO STOP.
THOSE VILLAINS SIN-EATER SHOT? THEY'RE VERY MUCH ALIVE AND VERY MUCH REFORMED. WIN-WIN, YOU MIGHT THINK, AND MAYBE CONSIDER DONNING A GREEN BALACLAVA YOURSELF.
ESPECIALLY ONCE YOU LEARN HIS NEXT TARGET IS SPIDEY'S WORST VILLAIN EVER, NORMAN OSBORN.
SPIDER-MAN DOESN'T TRUST IT, THOUGH, KNOWING THAT THE MYSTERIOUS CENTIPEDE-WEARING KINDRED HAS A PART IN ALL OF THIS.
AND THAT DREAM WE MENTIONED AT THE TOP? THAT WASN'T PETER'S, AND HE HASN'T BEEN THE ONLY ONE DREAMING...

WE HAVE TO STOP HIM.
WE HAVE TO STOP SPIDER-MAN--
--AND WE CAN ONLY DO IT TOGETHER.
YEAH, I GUESS THAT'S THE PART I'M NOT FOLLOWING...
WHY US? I MEAN, WE'VE NEVER REALLY BEEN A TEAM. DON'T GET ME WRONG, I'M UP FOR HELPING SPIDEY--
WE ALL ARE. BUT THE ONE WHOSE NAME I DON'T REMEMBER IS RIGHT, JULIA. WE DON'T ACTUALLY HAVE A LOT IN COMMON HERE BESIDES THE MATCHING OUTFITS.
THAT'S ANYA CORAZON, A.K.A. SPIDER-GIRL. COME ON, JESS. --NICK
IT'S MORE THAN THAT, JESSICA. TO WEAR THE SYMBOL OF THE SPIDER IS TO BECOME ITS TOTEM.
TEAM OR NOT, ALL OF US ARE CONNECTED BY THE WEB OF LIFE AND DESTINY. OUR PATHS ARE TANGLED TOGETHER.
USUALLY THAT MEANS LITTLE. SPIDERS ARE, BY NATURE, SOLITARY. BUT SOMETIMES SOMETHING HAPPENS THAT BRINGS US TOGETHER--

"LIKE WHEN THE KRAVINOFFS TRIED TO HUNT ALL OF US...
"...WHEN THE INHERITORS ATTACKED US ACROSS THE MULTIVERSE..."
...AND NOW TODAY, WHEN SPIDER-MAN'S LIFE IS, AS WE ALL KNOW, IN DANGER.
WE'RE NOT SURE ABOUT THAT.
OH, COME ON, GWEN. YOU SAW IT JUST LIKE THE REST OF US.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SAW.
THEN WHY DON'T YOU TRY TELLING US AGAIN?
SIGH FINE--


IT WAS JUST A DREAM.
EXCEPT IT WASN'T--
WE ALL SAW IT, DIDN'T WE? EXCEPT IN MINE, IT WAS AT *EMPIRE STATE*--
SAME ENDING, THOUGH.
QUEENS FOR ME.
AVENGERS MANSION.
THE WEB IS CRYING OUT IN ANGUISH. HER CHAMPION IS ABOUT TO FALL.
WHAT YOU EXPERIENCED WERE NOT DREAMS. THEY WERE VISIONS OF WHAT'S TO COME. AND IN ALL OF THEM, THE OUTCOME IS THE SAME.
SPIDER-MAN, SLAIN. AND THE MAN RESPONSIBLE--

"--NORMAN OSBORN."

THIS SHOULD COME AS A SURPRISE TO NO ONE.
NEARLY EVERYONE HERE HAS SUFFERED AT OSBORN'S HAND. NO EVIL HAS THREATENED US LIKE THE GREEN GOBLIN.
BUT IT APPEARS THE MONSTER'S LUCK RAN OUT--
"--WHEN HE FELL INTO THE CROSSHAIRS OF THE SIN-EATER."
IF THE SIN-EATER ELIMINATES OSBORN AS A THREAT, HE'S NO LONGER A THREAT TO SPIDER-MAN. OUR PROBLEM IS SOLVED.
YEAH, SMALL HANG-UP THERE--
--THERE'S ONE PERSON NOT EXACTLY DOWN WITH YOUR PLAN.
"I MEAN, A FEW OF US HAVE TRIED TALKING HIM OUT OF IT, AND HE IS HEARING NONE OF IT.
"THE ONLY ONE NOT GOING ALONG WITH THE PLOT TO SAVE SPIDER-MAN--

"--IS SPIDER-MAN."
THERE YOU ARE, NORMAN. I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU!
DON'T WORRY, IT'S JUST YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SWORN ENEMY!
HERE TO RESCUE YOU. AGAIN.

GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME, YOU MISCREANT!
HEY, I'M TRYING TO DO YOU A SOLID HERE, NORMAN.
THUD
IF IT WEREN'T FOR ME, THESE GUYS WOULD'VE TORN YOU TO SHREDS.
I'M TRYING, FOR REASONS I'M STILL STRUGGLING WITH, TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE IN ONE PIECE. BUT YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY MAKING IT EASY FOR ME--
KRAK
--WHAT WITH HOW YOU KEEP TRYING TO SLINK AWAY FROM ME EVERY TIME I TURN MY BACK ON YOU.
SLINK AWAY? LOOK AROUND YOU, YOU ARROGANT CHILD--

THIS IS MY HOUSE YOU'RE STANDING IN. RAVENCROFT IS UNDER MY CONTROL.
AND I WILL NOT BE CHASED FROM IT BY THIS--
THAP
KRSH
BWAM
--FILTH.
NOR WILL I BE CARRIED OUT OF IT BY THE LIKES OF YOU, PRETENDING TO BE MY RESCUER. AFTER ALL, YOU'RE NOT TERRIBLY GOOD AT SAVING ANYONE WHEN IT REALLY MATTERS--
--AT LEAST NOT IN MY EXPERIENCE.

ENOUGH!
FWAM
YOU WANNA TALK ABOUT OUR "EXPERIENCES" TOGETHER, NORMAN?
FINE. I HAVE BEEN TRAPPED IN A SPIRAL OF DEATH AND PAIN AND HURT WITH YOUR FACE ATTACHED TO IT FOR MORE YEARS THAN I CARE TO COUNT--
--AND IT IS TAKING EVERY FIBER OF MY BEING NOT TO THROW YOU TO THE WOLVES. BUT HERE'S THE THING--
--I DON'T BUY THE DEFIANT ACT. THIS ISN'T ABOUT YOUR PRIDE. OR AT LEAST, NOT ALL OF IT.
I KNOW YOU, NORMAN. I HATE THAT I DO, BUT I KNOW YOU-- HOW YOUR SICK, TWISTED MIND OPERATES.
YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING. JUST LIKE ALWAYS.
SOMEWHERE IN THIS GOD-FORSAKEN PLACE, THERE'S SOMETHING YOU WANT TO GET TO.
AND YOU ARE TRYING TO GET TO IT WITHOUT ME. WELL, TOO BAD.
LIKE IT OR NOT, THIS TIME, YOU AND ME? WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER--

"--TO THE BITTER END."
I DON'T UNDERSTAND--
--WHY IS HE *DOING* THIS?
I MEAN, IF SIN-EATER WAS TRYING TO *KILL* HIM, BUT... ISN'T HE *CURING* THESE BAD GUYS? THAT'S WHAT *THREATS & MENACES* IS REPORTING.
MAYBE IF WE ALL TALKED TO HIM--
WE TRIED ALREADY.
YEAH, I TRIED TO WARN HIM. EVENTUALLY, IF HE DOESN'T DO SOMETHING, THAT GUY'S GONNA KILL HIM--
--AND OSBORN WILL ASSUREDLY KILL *OTHERS* ALONG THE WAY. I PROMISED HIM THAT.
IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.
HE KNOWS ALL THAT.
NOBODY HATES NORMAN MORE THAN *HE* DOES.
IF HE THOUGHT THIS WAS REALLY A WAY TO STOP HIM, HE WOULD DO IT IN A HEARTBEAT.
BUT HE ALSO KNOWS YOU CAN'T MAKE A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL AND NOT EXPECT TO PAY THE PRICE.
WE ALL KNOW HOW EVIL OSBORN IS. BUT FOR ALL WE KNOW, THIS SIN-EATER WEIRDO AND WHATEVER'S BEHIND HIM...

"...WHO'S TO SAY THEY'RE NOT EVEN *WORSE?*"
TOWER, WE NEED REINFORCEMENTS, STAT! TOO MANY OF THESE IDIOTS--WE'RE ABOUT TO BE--
WHOOSH
--CLEANSED, AS WITH THE MONEY CHANGERS AND SELLERS--
--THIS HOUSE WILL BE RID OF SIN SOON.

BLAM! BLAM!
HN.
ACTUAL BRAVERY.
I CAN ADMIRE THAT--
BUT THIS WORLD'S WICKEDNESS CAN BLIND EVEN THE MOST WELL MEANING--
LET ME SHOW YOU THE WAY.
HOURS EARLIER...
"I DON'T UNDERSTAND."
I'VE DONE EVERYTHING YOU ASKED OF ME, BEEN YOUR GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT.

AND STILL YOU FORSAKE ME. WHY?!
YOU SAVED ME. GAVE ME A CALLING. YOU SENT ME OUT INTO THE WORLD TO DO YOUR WORK, AND EVER SINCE THEN--
--SILENCE.
NYPD
HAVE I DISPLEASED YOU? HAVE I FAILED YOU IN SOME WAY I DON'T UNDERSTAND?
I'VE GATHERED THE FLOCK. I'VE PROMISED THEM A MIRACLE, JUST LIKE I WAS INSTRUCTED-- BUT I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO DO NOW. PLEASE--
--PLEASE JUST GIVE ME A SIGN...
CREAK
WHO'S THERE? I TOLD ALL OF YOU TO WAIT OUT--
YOU... THE ONE FROM THE GATHERING YESTERDAY.
I'M SORRY I RAN AWAY. SPIDER-MAN AND I--WE HAVE SOME VERY UNPLEASANT HISTORY.

BUT I HAD TO FIND YOU AGAIN. I MEANT WHAT I SAID BACK THERE. I WANT YOU TO CLEANSE ME, I WANT TO BE FREE OF THIS...
HH. THE STENCH OF SIN IS ALL OVER YOU. BUT REMOVE THAT HOOD. I WANT TO SEE WHO IT IS I'LL BE SAVING.
HH-- HH--
HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
HE HEARD ME. HE HEARS...
"...AND HE ANSWERS."
BLAM

YOUR SINS HAVE BEEN CLEANSED, MARTIN LI.
"THE EVILS OF MR. NEGATIVE WILL CONDEMN YOU NO MORE--"
AND FROM THIS ACT OF REDEMPTION--
--A RECKONING WILL COME.

ARE YOU READY TO RECEIVE MY GIFT, THEN?
READY TO SEE THE TRUTH?
LIEUTENANT?
BLAM
BLAM
NOW GO IN MY NAME.

YOU WANTED TO KNOW WHERE I WAS "SLINKING AWAY" TO?
NOW I'VE SHOWN YOU.
WAIT, THIS--
--IS YOUR OLD CELL.
AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T VISIT.
I COME HERE TO REFLECT. TO THINK--
--AND TO PLAN FOR THE FUTURE. AFTER ALL, SOMETIMES, TO UNDERSTAND WHAT'S AHEAD--
VZZZZZ

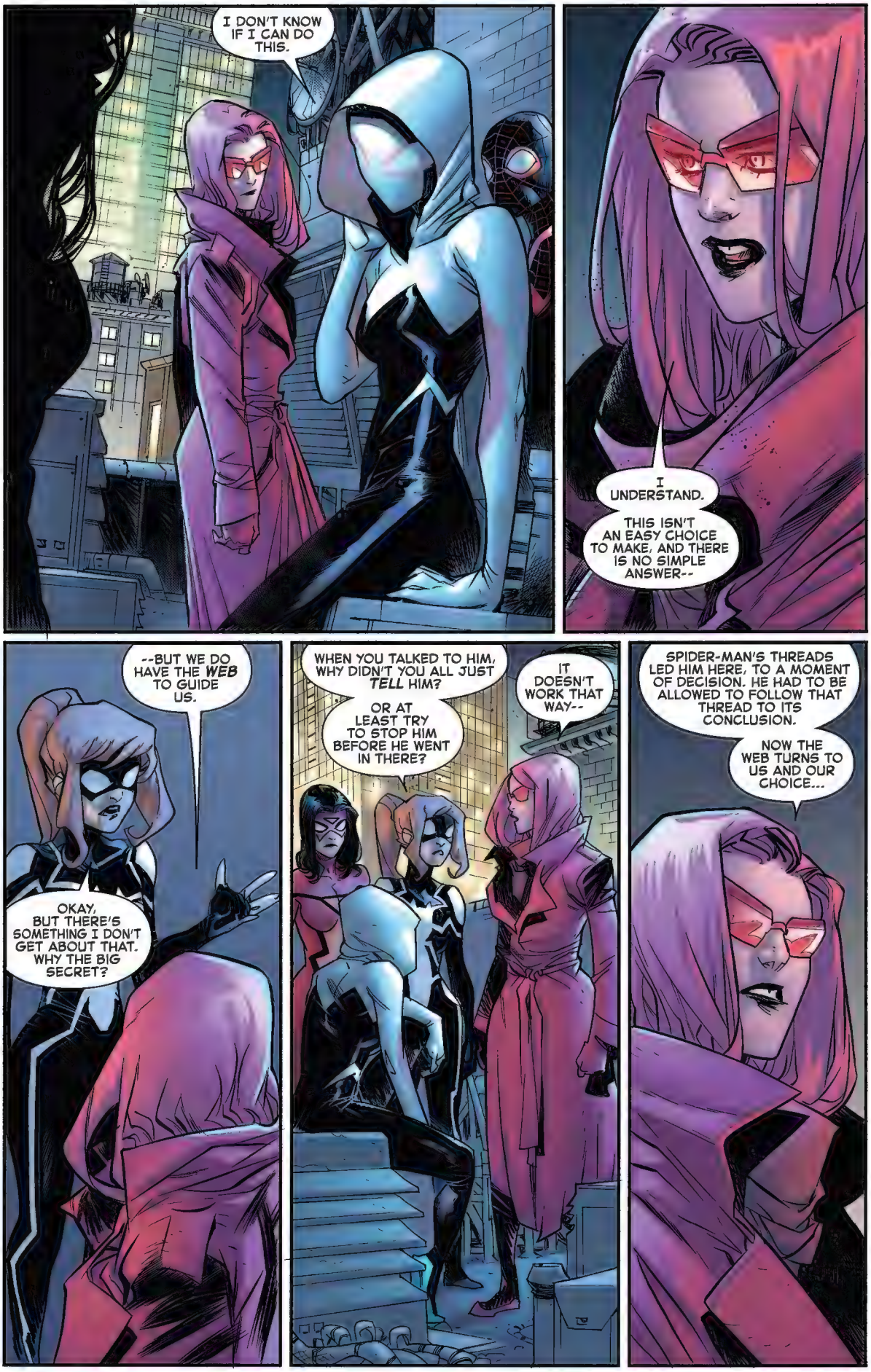
VVZZZAAAAAHH
--YOU HAVE TO GO BACK TO WHERE IT ALL BEGAN.
I KNEW IT.
IT'S ALWAYS SOME SECRET ROOM WITH YOU. UNBELIEVABLE.
THIS ONE YOU'LL END UP THANKING ME FOR.
EVENTUALLY.
WAIT-- WHERE IS THIS? IS THIS EMPIRE STATE? NORMAN--
--WHAT WERE YOU DOING DOWN HERE?

THAT NEEDN'T CONCERN YOU NOW, WEB-SLINGER.
NO, OUR FOCUS SHOULD BE HERE, ON *RAVENCROFT*. AND THE INMATE WE CAN USE TO TURN THE TIDE.
INMATE? FUNNY, I COULD'VE SWORN THEY WERE ALL EVACUATED-- ACCORDING TO YOU.
ALL BUT ONE-- A RECENT ARRIVAL. HE'S QUITE-- DIFFICULT TO TRANSPORT.
HE'S ALSO PROVEN RESISTANT TO EVEN OUR MOST INTENSIVE ATTEMPTS AT REHABILITATION.
PRETTY SURE YOU MEAN *BRAINWASHING--*
BUT AS A WEAPON, IF POINTED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, HE'S MORE THAN CAPABLE OF DEALING WITH THIS SIN-EATER AND HIS MOB. ALL WE NEED TO DO IS--
NO!
WHAT IS IT?
HE'S--HE'S *GONE...*
COMPUTER, BRING UP FOOTAGE FROM THE LAST TEN MINUTES--
THIS IS *IMPOSSIBLE.* NO ONE COULD GET INTO THAT CELL. THE ONLY PEOPLE WITH ACCESS WERE MYSELF AND--

DOCTOR KAFKA!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?!
I'M SORRY, MA'AM--WE NEED TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.
I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND-- DIRECTOR OSBORN SAID I WASN'T TO LEAVE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE.
I'M AFRAID THE ROOM IS NO LONGER SECURE-- PLEASE! WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME--
HE'S RIGHT. YOUR TIME IS UP, ASHLEY KAFKA--
--AND NORMAN OSBORN IS NO LONGER IN CHARGE OF THIS FACILITY.
WAIT-- DOCTOR KAFKA'S ALIVE?!
INDEED...

"...THOUGH PERHAPS NOT FOR MUCH LONGER."
PFFT PFFT
kreeeak
OSBORN? THAT YOU?
WELL, WHOEVER YOU ARE, IT DON'T MATTER--

THE JUGGERNAUT
GONNA RIP ALL A' YOU TO SHREDS!

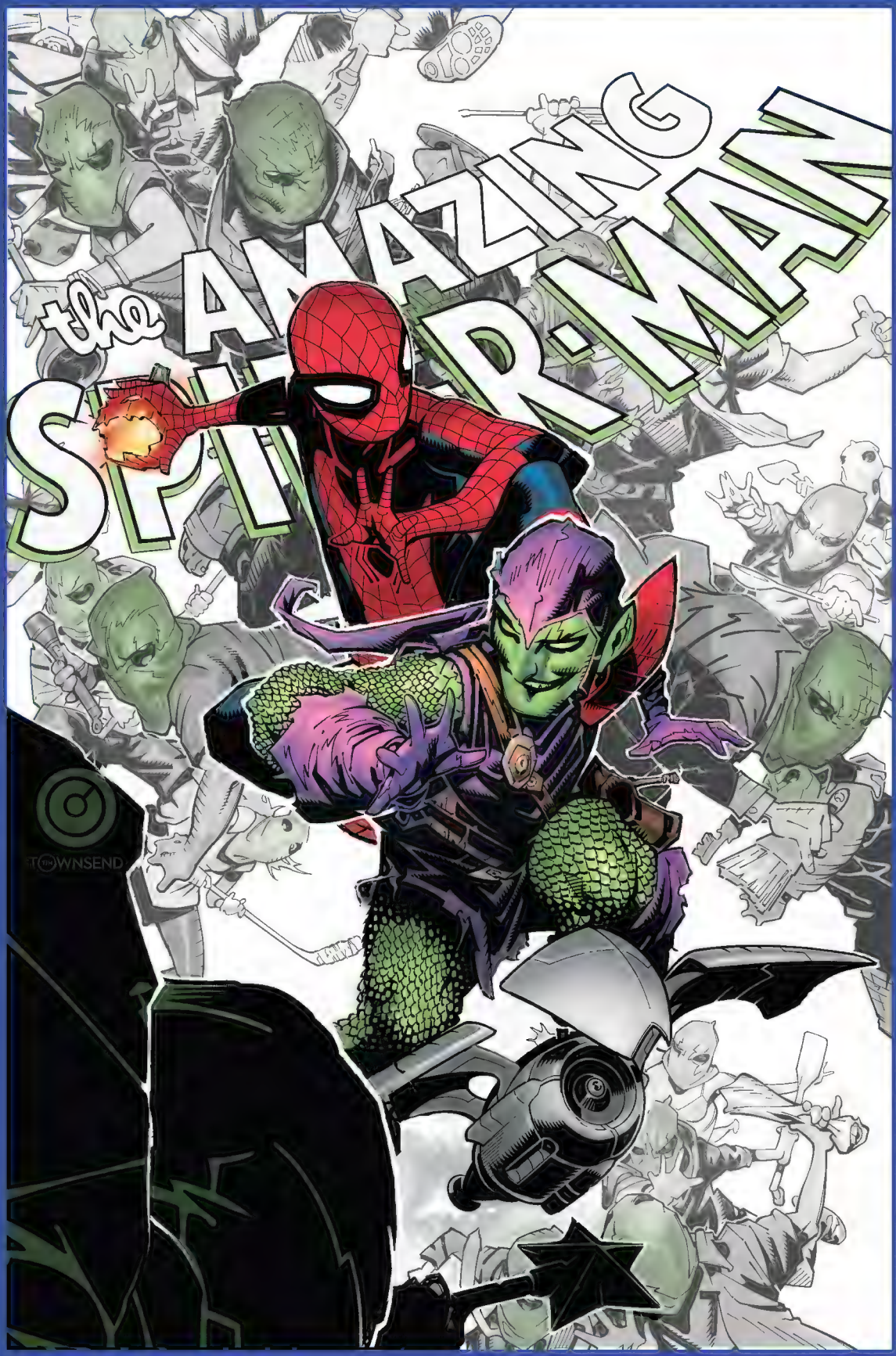

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN DO THIS.
I UNDERSTAND.
THIS ISN'T AN EASY CHOICE TO MAKE, AND THERE IS NO SIMPLE ANSWER--
--BUT WE DO HAVE THE WEB TO GUIDE US.
OKAY, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING I DON'T GET ABOUT THAT. WHY THE BIG SECRET?
WHEN YOU TALKED TO HIM, WHY DIDN'T YOU ALL JUST TELL HIM?
OR AT LEAST TRY TO STOP HIM BEFORE HE WENT IN THERE?
IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY--
SPIDER-MAN'S THREADS LED HIM HERE, TO A MOMENT OF DECISION. HE HAD TO BE ALLOWED TO FOLLOW THAT THREAD TO ITS CONCLUSION.
NOW THE WEB TURNS TO US AND OUR CHOICE...

WHO'S READY?
LET'S GO.
AYE.
YEP.
ME TOO.
SIGH--
OKAY.
GOOD, IF THAT'S SETTLED--

--THE ORDER OF THE WEB IS FORMED.
OH MAN, A TEAM NAME AND EVERYTHING. THIS IS THE WORST.
I'M ACTUALLY SURPRISED YOU AGREED TO THIS, MILES.
HEY, I'VE ALREADY SEEN THE GUY DIE ONCE. WOULD RATHER NOT AGAIN. THAT REMINDS ME--
--I WANTED TO ASK YOU SOMETHING.
GO AHEAD.
WE ALL TALKED ABOUT OUR DREAMS, OR VISIONS, OR WHATEVER. BUT-- YOU NEVER DID...
"WHAT DID YOU SEE?"
SOMETHING WORSE.

YOU MONSTER!
KRASH
DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'VE DONE?!
HNFF-- I DID WHAT WAS NECESSARY--
--TO STOP WHAT'S COMING. YOU'VE SEEN HIM TOO, HAVEN'T YOU?
KINDRED.
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM?!
I KNOW THE SIN-EATER IS JUST THE BEGINNING.
I KNOW HE WON'T STOP UNTIL BOTH OF US ARE DEAD. AND HE'LL HAPPILY SACRIFICE THIS ENTIRE GODFORSAKEN CITY TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.
HH...YOU SEE NOW, DON'T YOU? WHAT YOU WERE SAYING BEFORE IS TRUE.
LIKE IT OR NOT, WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER--

--TO THE BITTER END.



#49 VARIANT BY MARK BAGLEY, JOHN DELL & JASON KEITH

THE RETURN OF THE GREEN GOBLIN

"THERE WAS A TIME WHEN YOU WERE LIKE A SON TO ME, PETER.
"THE SON I NEVER HAD.
"MY CHANCE FOR A LEGACY."

OF COURSE. SO MUCH HAS COME BETWEEN US SINCE THEN, HASN'T IT?
AND OUR BURGEONING FAMILIAL LOVE TURNED TO *HATE*.
LIAR.

HOW LONG HAVE WE *TORMENTED* ONE ANOTHER?
I CALL YOU A FOOL, YOU CALL ME A MADMAN. I KILL SOMEONE YOU LOVE--

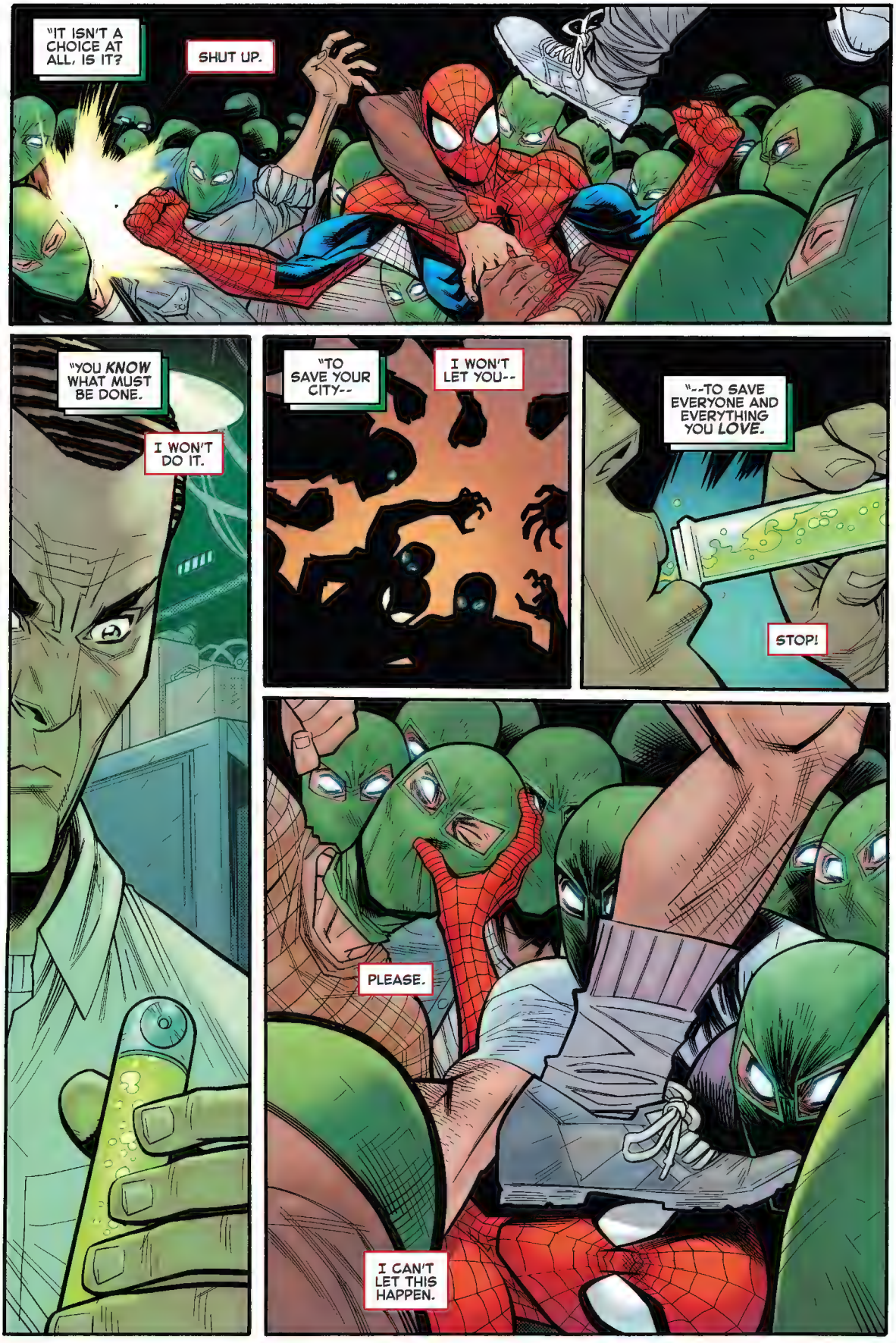
--YOU LOCK ME AWAY IN A PLACE LIKE THIS. IT'S A VICIOUS CYCLE.
ONE I CERTAINLY *NEVER* BELIEVED WOULD END.
DON'T TRUST HIM.

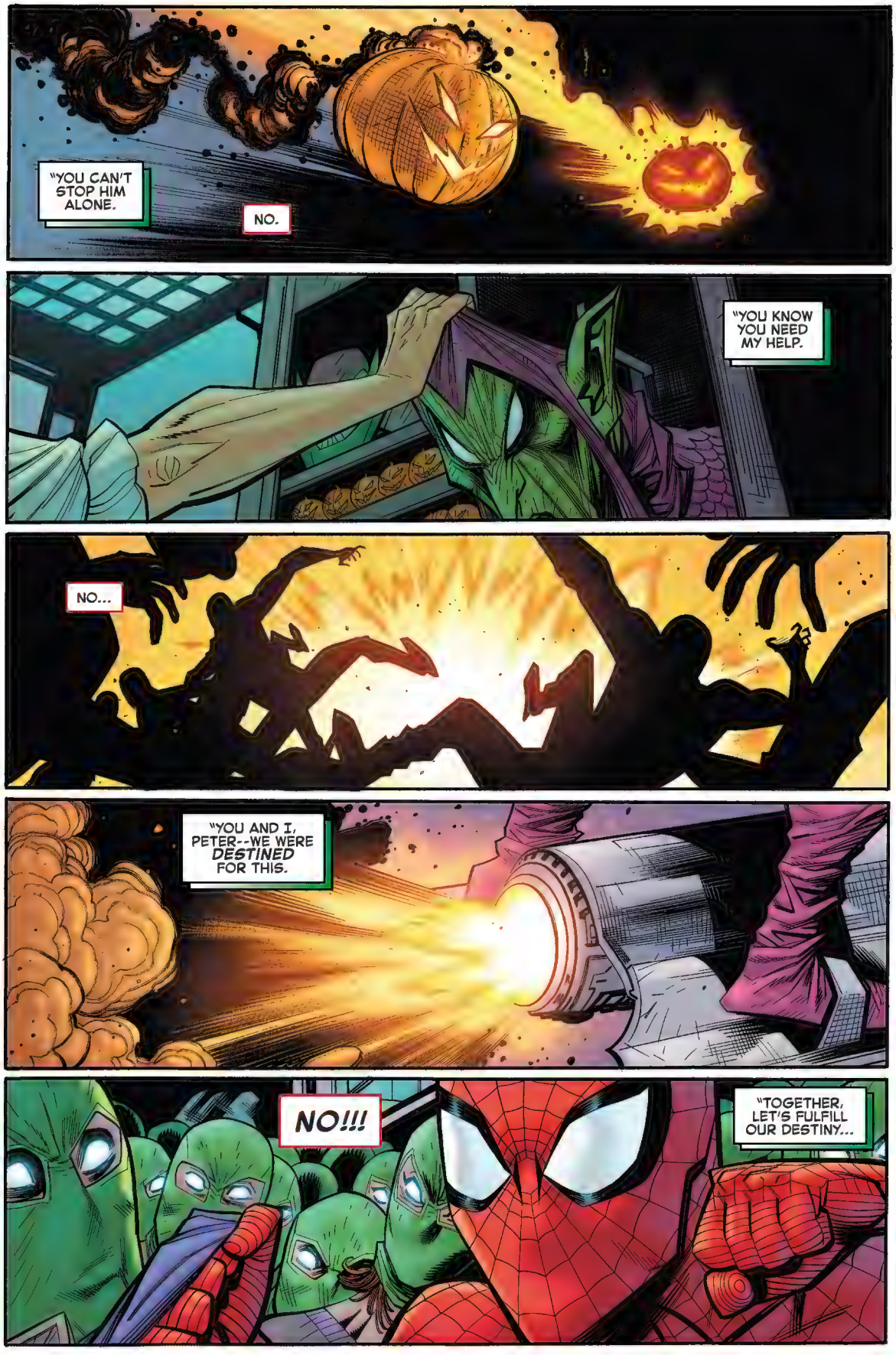
BUT THESE ARE EXTRAORDINARY AND DANGEROUS TIMES, PETER. WE MUST CHANGE OUR HABITS IN THE FACE OF THEM.
YOU AND I BOTH KNOW--

"--*HE'S* COMING."

KINDRED'S SHADOW FALLS OVER ALL THIS.
AND BEFORE WE CAN EVEN *BEGIN* TO DEAL WITH HIM--
MONSTER!

"--THERE'S WHAT WAITS BELOW."
RRRRRRRRR!!!!!


"IT ISN'T A CHOICE AT ALL, IS IT?
SHUT UP.
"YOU KNOW WHAT MUST BE DONE.
I WON'T DO IT.
"TO SAVE YOUR CITY--
I WON'T LET YOU--
"--TO SAVE EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING YOU LOVE.
STOP!
PLEASE.
I CAN'T LET THIS HAPPEN.


"YOU CAN'T STOP HIM ALONE.
NO.
"YOU KNOW YOU NEED MY HELP.
NO...
"YOU AND I, PETER--WE WERE DESTINED FOR THIS.
NO!!!
"TOGETHER, LET'S FULFILL OUR DESTINY...

"SPIDER-MAN AND THE GREEN GOBLIN--

"--FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE!"

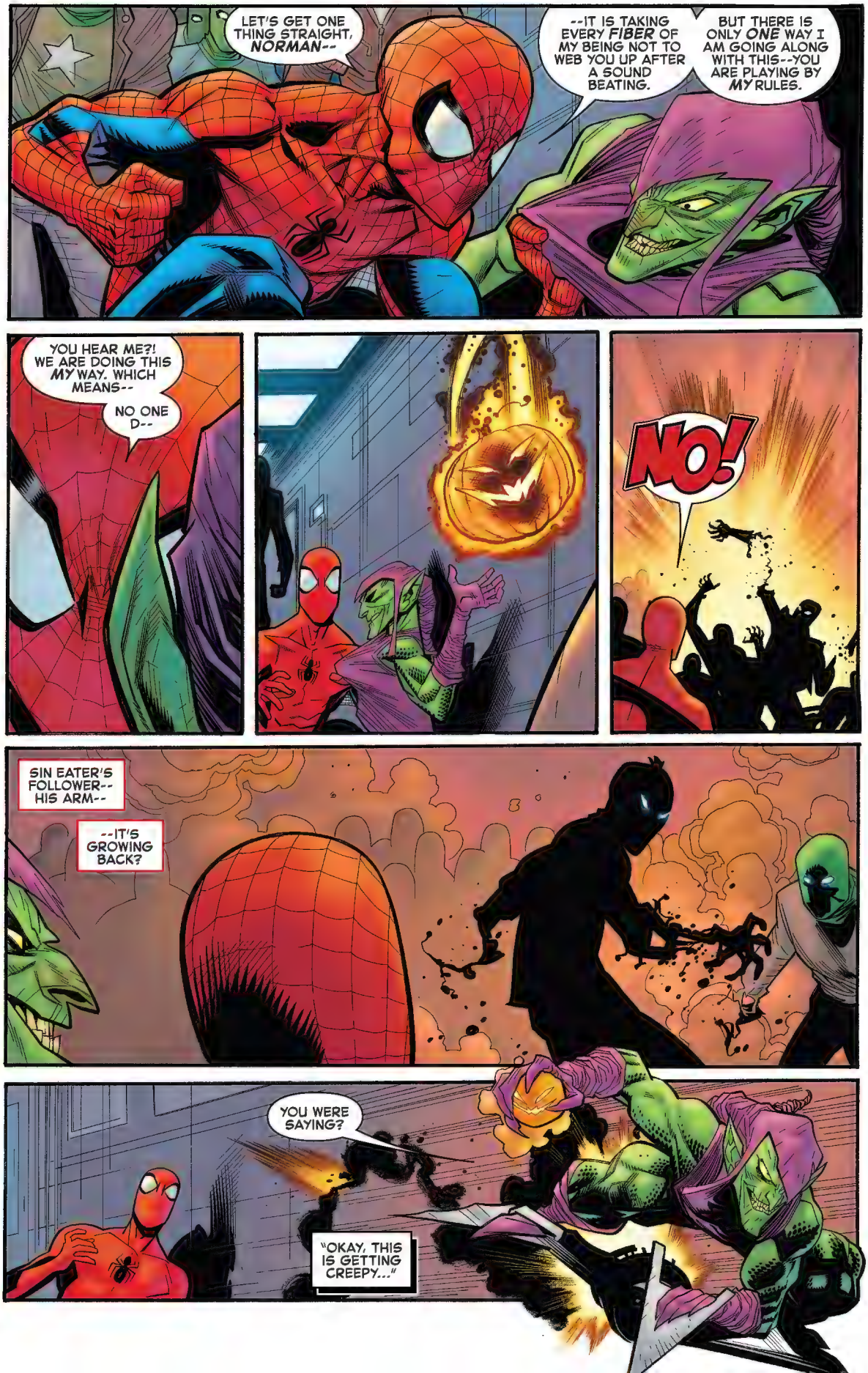
THE RETURN OF THE GREEN GOBLIN:

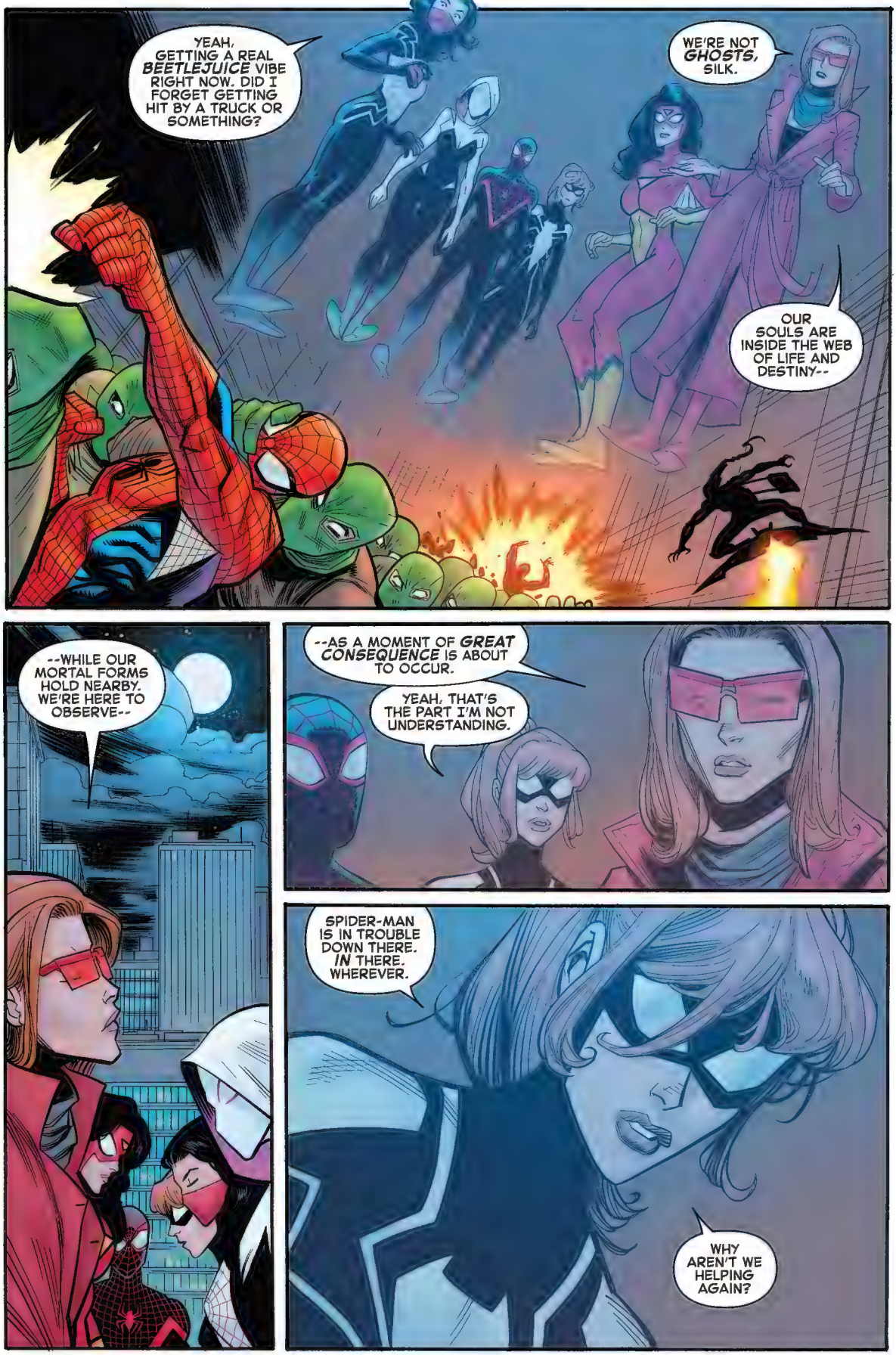
chapter one

UNSTOPPABLE

THIS IS WRONG. YOU KNOW IT'S WRONG.
YOU DID THIS TO STOP A MONSTER--
--NOT TO RESURRECT ANOTHER ONE!
THE GOBLIN HAS TAKEN EVERYTHING FROM YOU.
MORE THAN ONCE.
AND YOU KNOW IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME--
--BEFORE HE DOES IT AGAIN.
GOTCHA!

YOU KNOW, I TAKE GREAT OFFENSE AT YOUR APPROPRIATION.
I MEAN, PURPLE AND GREEN?! THAT'S MY COLOR MOTIF! THE NERVE. BESIDES, YOU'D LOOK MUCH BETTER--
--IN RED!
NO!
UNFF!


LET'S GET ONE THING STRAIGHT, NORMAN--
--IT IS TAKING EVERY FIBER OF MY BEING NOT TO WEB YOU UP AFTER A SOUND BEATING.
BUT THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY I AM GOING ALONG WITH THIS--YOU ARE PLAYING BY MY RULES.
YOU HEAR ME?! WE ARE DOING THIS MY WAY. WHICH MEANS--
NO ONE D--
NO!
SIN EATER'S FOLLOWER-- HIS ARM--
--IT'S GROWING BACK?
YOU WERE SAYING?
"OKAY, THIS IS GETTING CREEPY..."

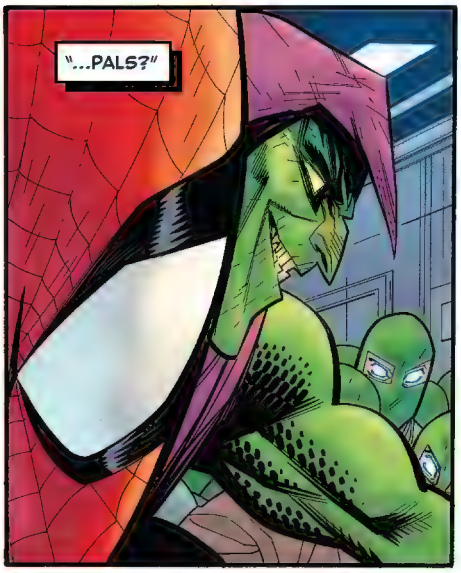

YEAH, GETTING A REAL BEETLEJUICE VIBE RIGHT NOW. DID I FORGET GETTING HIT BY A TRUCK OR SOMETHING?
WE'RE NOT GHOSTS, SILK.
OUR SOULS ARE INSIDE THE WEB OF LIFE AND DESTINY--
--WHILE OUR MORTAL FORMS HOLD NEARBY. WE'RE HERE TO OBSERVE--
--AS A MOMENT OF GREAT CONSEQUENCE IS ABOUT TO OCCUR.
YEAH, THAT'S THE PART I'M NOT UNDERSTANDING.
SPIDER-MAN IS IN TROUBLE DOWN THERE. IN THERE. WHEREVER.
WHY AREN'T WE HELPING AGAIN?

BECAUSE IT ISN'T TIME YET, ANYA.
SPIDER-WOMAN IS RIGHT. THIS IS NOT THE FIGHT WE NEED TO BE CONCERNED WITH.
YOU ALL SAW THE VISIONS. IF WE DON'T STOP HIM--

"--THE GREEN GOBLIN IS GOING TO KILL SPIDER-MAN.
"BUT THERE IS *SOMETHING ELSE* STANDING IN THE WAY OF THAT.

RRRR!!!!!!!!
"THE *SIN-EATER.*"

ONLY *AFTER* HE CLEANSES NORMAN OSBORN--THEN WE STEP IN.
ONE SMALL PROBLEM WITH THIS PLAN--SPIDEY AND THE GOBLIN RIGHT NOW ARE APPARENTLY, *UM...*


"...PALS?"

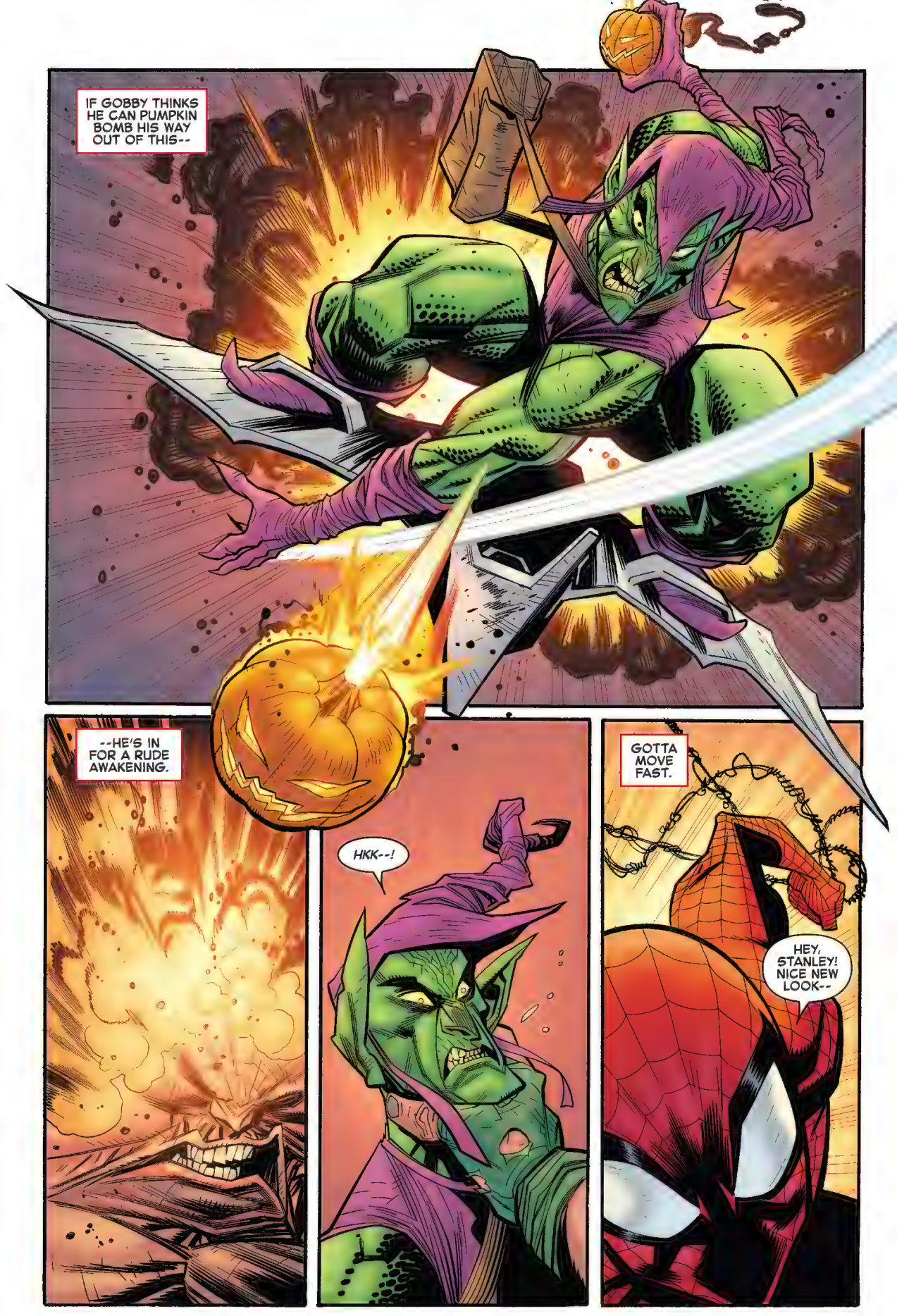
I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD *SEE* SOMETHING LIKE THIS. I KNOW THIS SIN-EATER HAD GOTTEN UNDER HIS SKIN, BUT--
IT'S ONE THING TO WANT TO STOP HIM FROM DOING...WHATEVER HE IS DOING--
LETTING OSBORN BECOME THE *GOBLIN* AGAIN, THOUGH--
YEAH...
...IT KILLS ME TO SAY THIS, BUT--
--THE GUY IS NOT THINKING CLEARLY RIGHT NOW. WE GOTTA STOP HIM.
OR, SECOND OPTION...
...WE DON'T.
REALLY? *THIS* AGAIN?
YEAH, THOUGHT WE WERE ALL IN ON THIS BY NOW--
I'M ALLOWED TO CHANGE MY MIND.
JUST LIKE I'M ALLOWED TO TRY TO CHANGE YOURS.

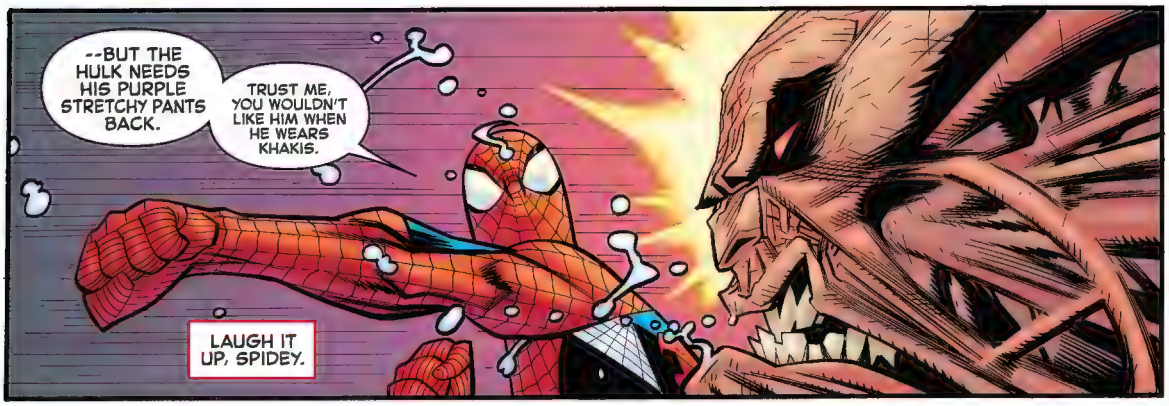
TOO MANY OF THEM. AND THEY'RE INDESTRUCTIBLE.
I MAY NOT KNOW HOW THAT HAPPENED--
--BUT I KNOW WHO DID IT...
RRRRR!!!!!!!!
SURROUNDED--
RRRRR!!!!!!!!
SWARMED--
KH-THOOM
CAN'T HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER--
KH-THOOM
BUT MAYBE I WON'T NEED TO?
KH-THOOM

HIS FOLLOWERS-- THEY JUST... STOPPED? AND THAT SOUND--
...THE HECK?
KH-THOOM
KNEELING--
OH NO...
KH-THOOM
KH-THOOM
HE'S HERE.
SO IT'S COME TO THIS, THEN--
YOUR SINS. SO MANY...

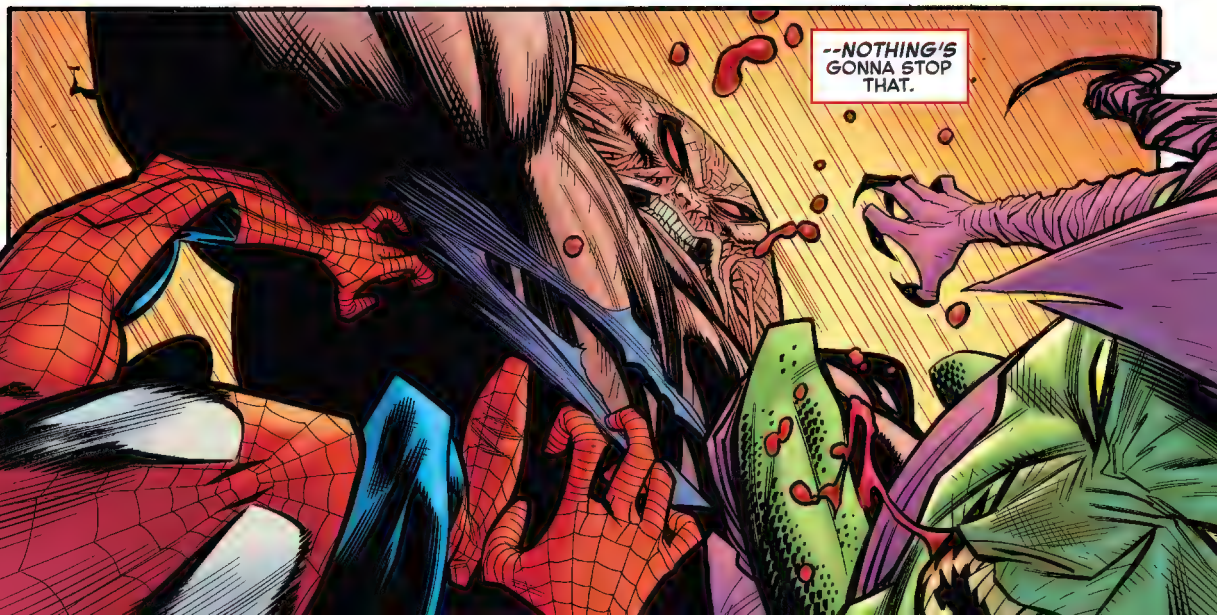
THEY CONSUMED YOU IN THE END.

LOOK AT THE TWO OF YOU.
SO MUCH HATRED, SUCH A TORTURED HISTORY--
--YET NOW I CAN BARELY TELL YOU APART.
I CAN'T LET YOU DO THIS, STAN--
--NOT EVEN TO HIM.
UNREAL. LOOK WHERE YOUR GUILT HAS BROUGHT YOU.
I'M OFFERING YOU SALVATION FROM THIS MONSTER, AND INSTEAD YOU STAND IN MY WAY? I WISH I COULD SAY I WAS SURPRISED--
I AGREE.
HE IS THE PREDICTABLE SORT, ISN'T HE?
SUCH A BLEEDING HEART, NEVER WILLING TO DO WHAT IT TAKES. WHAT'S THE WORD...?
SOFT?
OH YES, MR. CARTER. I'VE READ YOUR FILE. ALL THE THINGS YOU TOLD THE NICE DOCTORS IN ORDER TO EARN YOUR RELEASE THE LAST TIME YOU WERE INSTITUTIONALIZED.
WELL, I WANT TO ASSURE YOU--
--I'VE ALREADY PICKED OUT A LOVELY CELL FOR YOU!
GOBLIN, NO!


IF GOBBY THINKS HE CAN PUMPKIN BOMB HIS WAY OUT OF THIS--
--HE'S IN FOR A RUDE AWAKENING.
HKK--!
GOTTA MOVE FAST.
HEY, STANLEY! NICE NEW LOOK--


--BUT THE HULK NEEDS HIS PURPLE STRETCHY PANTS BACK.
TRUST ME, YOU WOULDN'T LIKE HIM WHEN HE WEARS KHAKIS.
LAUGH IT UP, SPIDEY.

THIS ISN'T JUST THE SIN-EATER ANYMORE.
THIS IS THE SIN-EATER WITH THE POWER OF THE JUGGERNAUT.
YOU CAN HIT HIM AS HARD AND AS FAST AS YOU LIKE--


--NOTHING'S GONNA STOP THAT.

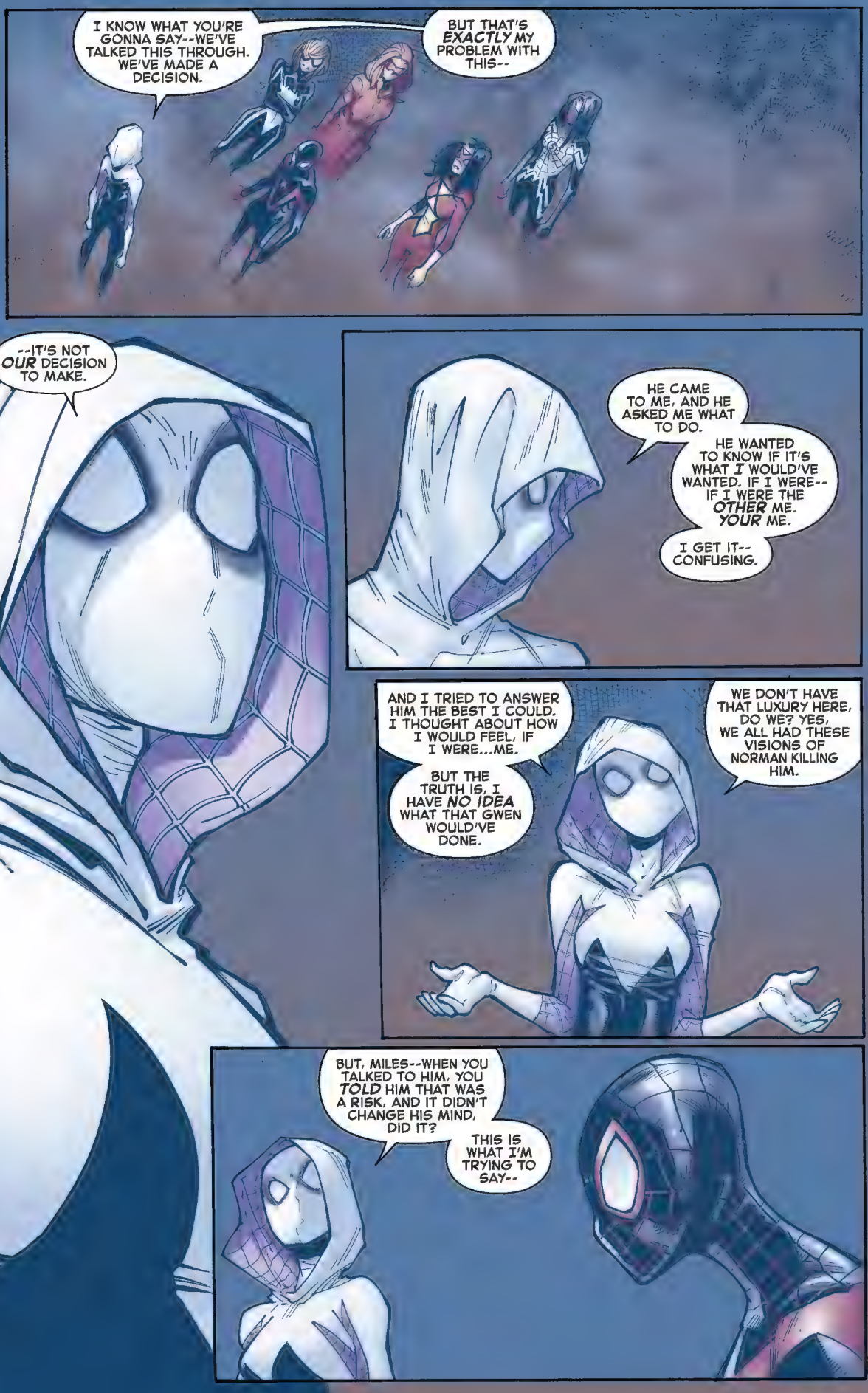
THE RETURN OF THE GREEN GOBLIN:

chapter two

THE DEBT

OKAY, CAN I MAKE A SUGGESTION? THE PLAN WAS SUPPOSED TO BE TO GET YOU AWAY FROM HIM--
--MAYBE A FRONTAL ASSAULT ISN'T THE WAY TO GO?
HH. WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO, THEN?
I'M TALKING ABOUT AN ESCAPE ROUTE, NORMAN.
WELL, IT WON'T BE EASY.
"HIS FOLLOWERS HAVE BUILT HUMAN WALLS AROUND EVERY POINT OF EGRESS IN THE FACILITY."
OH, COME ON, NORMAN--I ALREADY SAW THE HIDDEN LAIR, REMEMBER?
I KNOW YOU HAVE ANOTHER WAY OUT.
SIGH SUBBASEMENT LEVEL, THERE'S A DOCK STATION--STILL VERY MUCH UNDER CONSTRUCTION, MIND YOU.
BUT THERE'S A SMALL VESSEL THERE THAT CAN TAKE US THROUGH THE WATERWAY AND OUT TO THE RIVER.
AN UNDERGROUND WATERWAY--BENEATH RAVENCROFT? NORMAN, FOR THE LAST TIME-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO DISCUSS IT, LITTLE SPIDER...
WE HAVE OTHER THINGS TO CONCERN OURSELVES WITH, AFTER ALL.
CHK-WWTTT
BUT REST ASSURED, I HAVE MADE THE MOST OF MY TIME REBUILDING RAVENCROFT. AND AS YOU CAN SEE--
--THIS INSTITUTION IS ONLY STRONGER FOR IT.
FSSSSHHHH-
KOOOOOOM
YOU KNOW THAT WON'T STOP HIM, RIGHT?
PERHAPS NOT, BUT IT DOES GIVE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOMETHING YOU'RE OH SO GOOD AT...
RUN AND HIDE!
HA HA HA


I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GONNA SAY--WE'VE TALKED THIS THROUGH. WE'VE MADE A DECISION.
BUT THAT'S EXACTLY MY PROBLEM WITH THIS--
--IT'S NOT OUR DECISION TO MAKE.
HE CAME TO ME, AND HE ASKED ME WHAT TO DO.
HE WANTED TO KNOW IF IT'S WHAT I WOULD'VE WANTED. IF I WERE-- IF I WERE THE OTHER ME. YOUR ME.
I GET IT-- CONFUSING.
AND I TRIED TO ANSWER HIM THE BEST I COULD. I THOUGHT ABOUT HOW I WOULD FEEL, IF I WERE...ME.
BUT THE TRUTH IS, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT GWEN WOULD'VE DONE.
WE DON'T HAVE THAT LUXURY HERE, DO WE? YES, WE ALL HAD THESE VISIONS OF NORMAN KILLING HIM.
BUT, MILES--WHEN YOU TALKED TO HIM, YOU TOLD HIM THAT WAS A RISK, AND IT DIDN'T CHANGE HIS MIND, DID IT?
THIS IS WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY--

"--THIS IS HIS FIGHT.
KOOM
"THESE ARE HIS DEMONS.
IZZZ
IZZZ
IZZZ
IZZZ
"WE MAY THINK WE KNOW BEST--
KROK
"--WE MAY THINK HE'S WRONG--
FWOOSH
"--BUT HASN'T HE EARNED THE RIGHT TO MAKE THAT CHOICE HIMSELF?
"I MEAN, COME ON--

"--THIS IS *SPIDER-MAN.*

"THERE'S A *REASON* THEY CALL HIM THE BEST OF US.

THWIP

"IT TOOK ME A *WHILE* TO FIGURE IT OUT. THE PETER PARKER I KNEW WAS A VERY DIFFERENT GUY.

FRAM

"THIS ONE IS THE REAL DEAL. A *HERO.*

RRRRAAAGGHH

"NO MATTER WHO TRIES TO STOP HIM, HE'S GOING TO DO WHAT HE BELIEVES IS RIGHT.

HKK!

KRAK

"AND IF WE TOLD HIM THAT'S HOW HE'D *DIE?*

"WELL, I'M GUESSING--

FRAM

KRAK

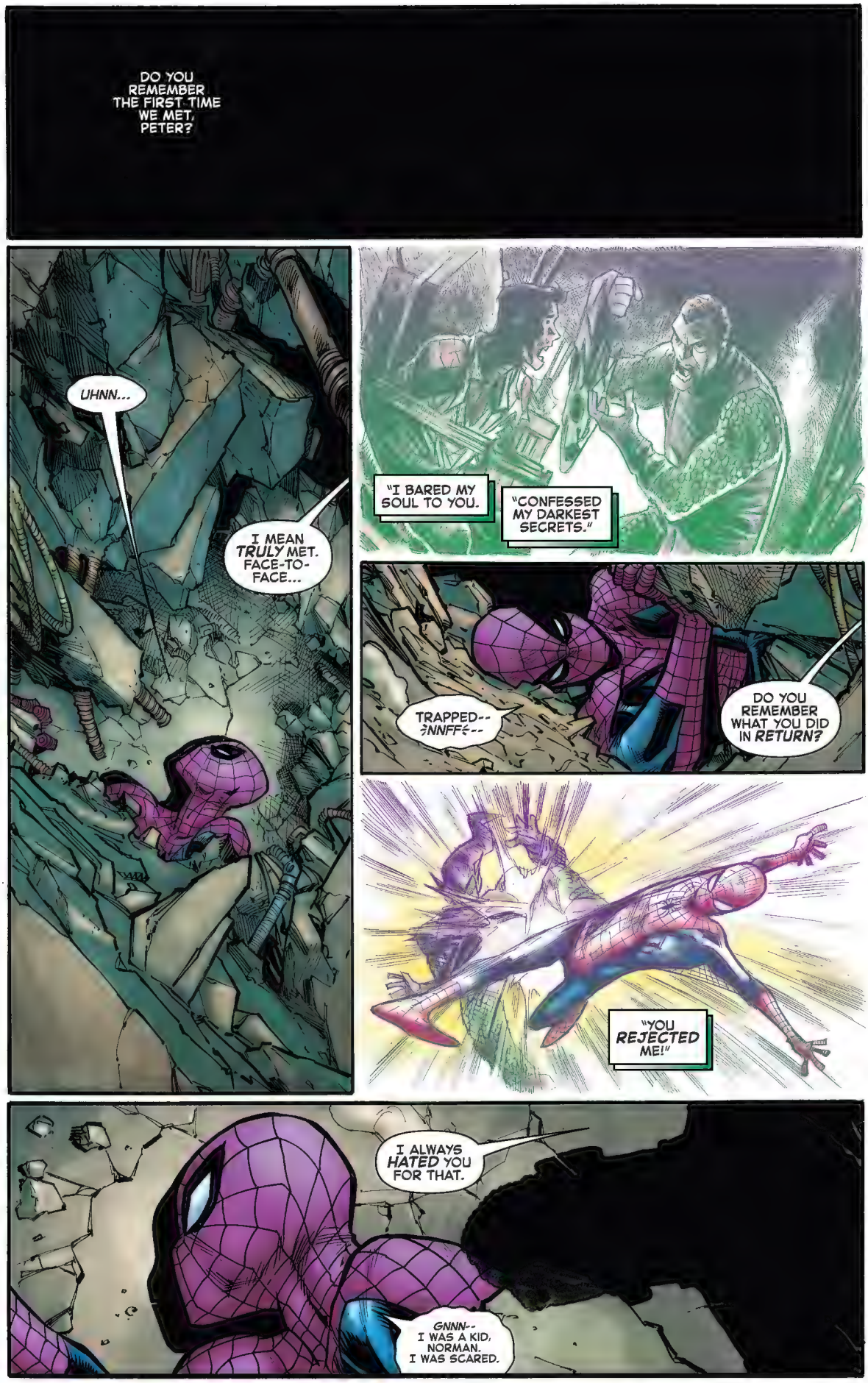
"--HE WOULDN'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY."

UNFF!
PWOOMP
THERE'S GOTTA BE ANOTHER WAY.
SPIDER-MAN, YOU USELESS CUR! HELP ME--
≠SIGH≠ YES, GOBBY. ONE BUTT SAVE COMING RIGHT UP...
THWIP
GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED.
NORMAN AND I ARE USED TO FIGHTING EACH OTHER--
--NOT TOGETHER.
THWIP
YOU IDIOT! GET OUT OF THE WAY--
YOU ASKED ME TO--
ONLY A MATTER OF TIME--
OOF!
THUP

--BEFORE SIN-EATER TAKES ADVANTAGE.
OKAY, THINK FAST, SPIDEY. THERE'S NOWHERE LEFT TO RUN--
AT LEAST NOT IN *FRONT* OF YOU...
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
HEY, STANLEY, SO SORRY--
--BUT I THINK WE'VE GOT THE WRONG FLOOR...
GOING DOWN!
YOINK

HEY, GOBBY-- HOLD ON!
I'VE GOT Y--
RRUMM
KABOOM
BOOOOOOOM

SO YEAH, I'M GWEN STACY--
--THANKS FOR COMING TO MY TED TALK.
JUST--ONE LAST THING AND I'M DONE.
I SAID BEFORE, HOW DO WE KNOW THE PATH WE'RE GOING DOWN ISN'T WORSE?
WE ALL KNOW THERE'S SOMETHING BEHIND SIN-EATER.
WE'VE ALL SEEN BACK TO THE FUTURE. TRYING TO CHANGE THINGS HAS CONSEQUENCES.
HOW DO WE KNOW WE'RE NOT PLAYING RIGHT INTO WHOEVER-IT-IS'S HANDS? LOOK--
--MAYBE I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO FEELS THIS WAY.
BUT WHY DON'T WE PUT IT TO ONE MORE VOTE?


DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME WE MET, PETER?
UHNN...
I MEAN TRULY MET. FACE-TO-FACE...
"I BARED MY SOUL TO YOU.
"CONFESSED MY DARKEST SECRETS."
TRAPPED-- ?NNFF?--
DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU DID IN RETURN?
"YOU REJECTED ME!"
I ALWAYS HATED YOU FOR THAT.
GNNN-- I WAS A KID, NORMAN. I WAS SCARED.

SO WAS I!
YOU CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT IT WAS LIKE IN THOSE EARLY DAYS--THE VOICES, THE SIDE EFFECTS OF THE SERUM...
I WAS LOSING CONTROL. I WAS TERRIFIED.
AND THEN I MET YOU. YOU WORE A MASK LIKE ME. WE BOTH PLAYED THE JOKER WHILE WE DANCED IN THE SKY.
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT UNDERSTAND ME. THAT I MIGHT NOT HAVE TO BE ALONE WITH THIS BURDEN INSIDE ME.
I HAD REACHED OUT IN MY OWN TWISTED WAY--I'LL ADMIT, IT WAS AGGRESSIVE. THAT WAS THE NATURE OF MY ILLNESS! BUT THAT REJECTION--
--IT BROKE ME. MY MIND SHATTERED. I SUFFERED A FIT OF AMNESIA. BUT WHEN MY MEMORIES RETURNED--
--OH, HOW I HATED YOU.
AND NOT JUST FOR THAT.
"AFTER YOU SPURNED ME--AFTER YOU BESTED ME IN BATTLE, AS MY LAB WENT UP IN FLAMES--
"--YOU SAVED ME."
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW ANGRY THAT MADE ME, PETER.
THAT YOU HAD HURT ME SO DEEPLY, AND YET, SOMEHOW I HAD TO LIVE IN YOUR DEBT.
WELL, AS OF TODAY-- NFF--

--CONSIDER THAT DEBT *PAID.*

COME WITH ME, PETER.
ANFF... WHERE ARE WE?
YOUR PLAN WORKED--
"AT LEAST FOR THE MOMENT.
"I TOLD YOU I HAD A STATION IN THE SUBBASEMENT."
WHOOSH
YOUR LITTLE STUNT PUT US RIGHT AT THE DOORSTEP.
HNN... LUCKY ME...
INDEED YOU ARE, WALL-CRAWLER.
THIS IS OUR WAY OUT.
WHAT THE--?

WH-WHAT IS THIS?
YOU KNOW HOW I LIKE TO KEEP BUSY.
THIS IS--AN ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE--BIGGEST ONE I'VE SEEN.
YOU COULD BLACK OUT HALF THE EASTERN SEABOARD WITH THIS--
INDEED--
--THOUGH MY FOCUS WAS MUCH CLOSER TO HOME.
WHATEVER NORMAN'S PLAN WAS, IT WAS BAD. BUT JUST LIKE BEFORE--

--I HAVE TO KEEP MY FOCUS ON THE PRESENT.
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
NO. MORE. RUNNING.
HATE TO SAY IT, GOBBY--BUT I THINK HE'S RIGHT.
HN. IF SO--
--TO THE BITTER END?
TO THE BITTER END.
THWIP

THE RETURN OF THE GREEN GOBLIN:

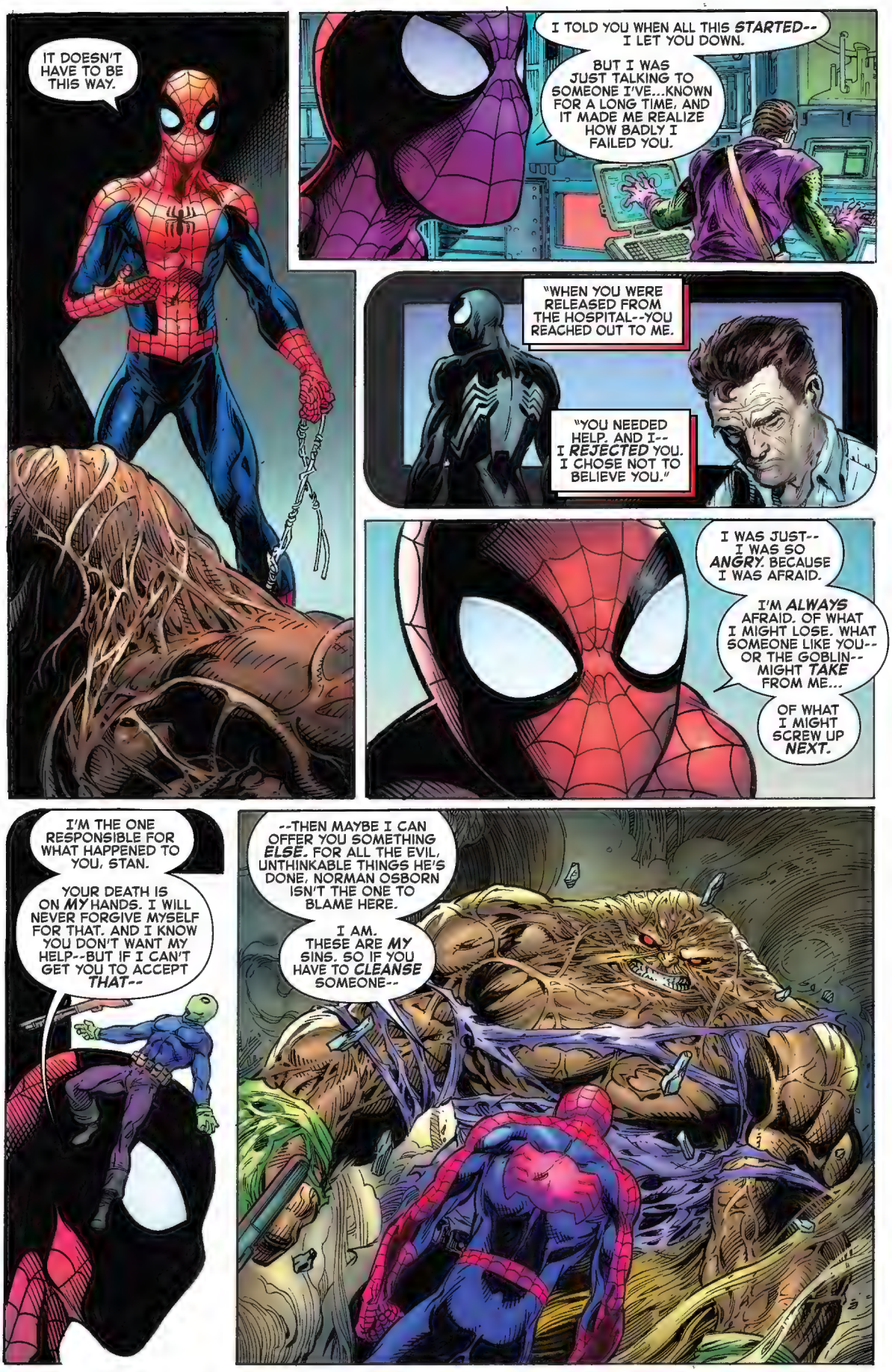
chapter three

YOUR CHOICE

THIS TIME, IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT.
TK
THWIP
I CAN'T EXPLAIN HOW OR WHY--
--BUT WITH OUR LIVES ON THE LINE, NORMAN AND I--
KRAM
FWAM
--WE FINALLY FIGURE OUT HOW TO WORK TOGETHER.
IT'S VERY DISCONCERTING.

READY, WALL-CRAWLER?
THWIP
SERVE 'EM UP, OSBORN. GOTTA SAY--
--NICE TO BE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THOSE THINGS FOR ONCE.
BWA-BOOM
OF COURSE, ALL THIS KUMBAYA STUFF WITH MY WORST FOE MIGHT COUNT FOR MORE--
--IF IT MATTERED AT ALL.
KA-THROOOM

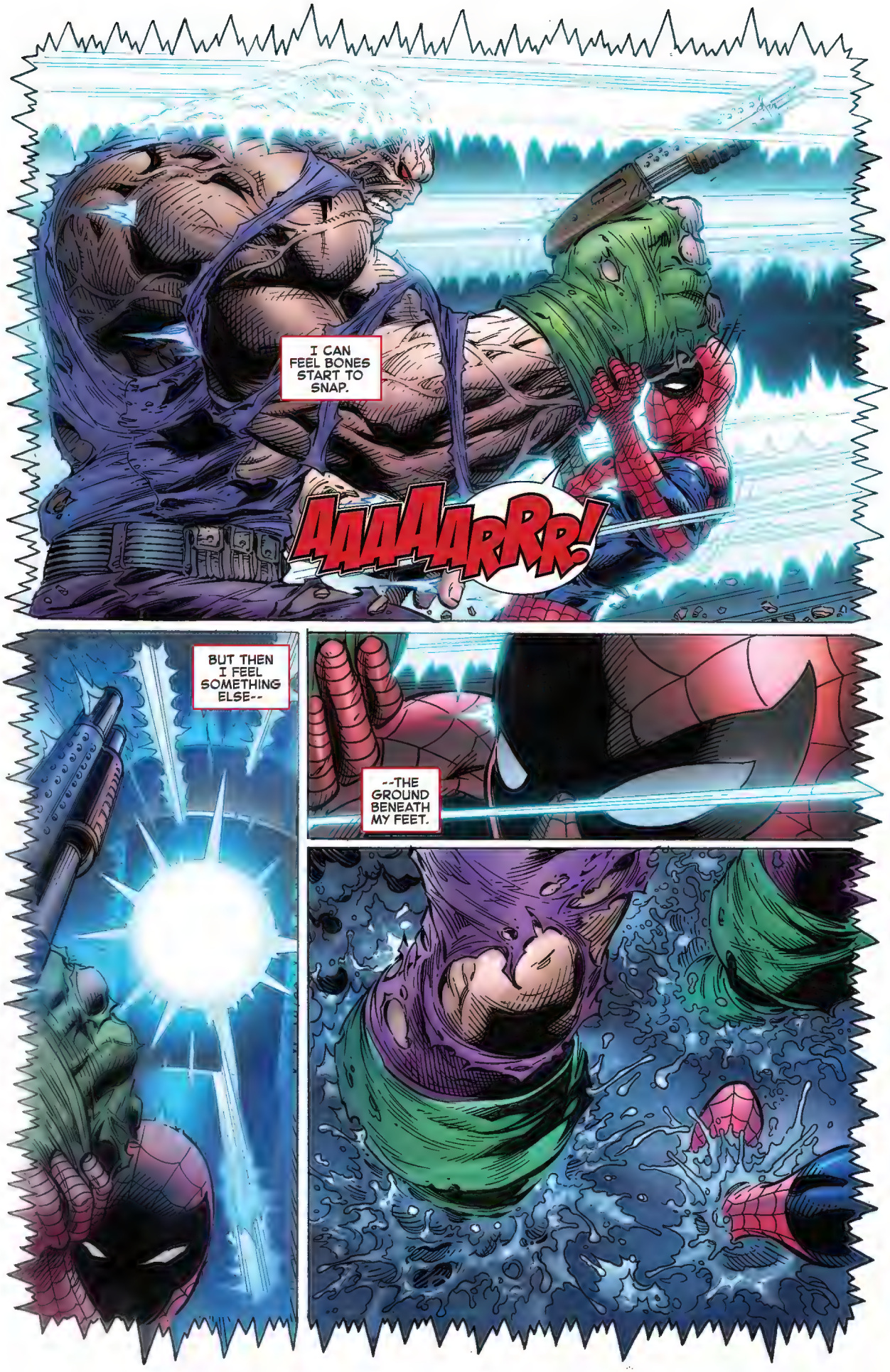
HOW DID YOU EVER DEFEAT JUGGERNAUT IN THE FIRST PLACE?
WASN'T EASY. AND UNFORTUNATELY, I DON'T SEE ANY WET CONCRETE AROUND TO--
WAIT--THAT'S IT! THE EMP'S COMPRESSION GENERATOR--
I FAIL TO SEE HOW BLACKING OUT THE CITY WOULD STOP HIM.
NOT THE CITY, JUST THE GROUND UNDER OUR FEET.
AH, I SEE--YOU WANT TO REDIRECT THE FORCE OF IT! CREATE A TREMOR. BECAUSE WITH ANY REAL TREMOR COMES--
LIQUEFACTION.
THAT WOULD TAKE SOME VERY PRECISE CALCULATIONS IN A VERY NARROW WINDOW OF TIME.
CAN YOU DO IT?
I BUILT THE DAMN THING, DIDN'T I?
WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT. SPIDER-MAN AND THE GREEN GOBLIN, WORKING TOGETHER, USING SCIENCE TO SOLVE THEIR CHALLENGES. OH, NORMAN--
--WHAT YOU COULD'VE BEEN.
IT'S A HAREBRAINED PLAN, FEELS DOOMED TO FAIL EVEN AS I COME UP WITH IT. BUT ONE THING I KNOW--
--I HAVE TO TRY.
STAN, STOP!
THWIP


IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY.
I TOLD YOU WHEN ALL THIS STARTED-- I LET YOU DOWN.
BUT I WAS JUST TALKING TO SOMEONE I'VE...KNOWN FOR A LONG TIME, AND IT MADE ME REALIZE HOW BADLY I FAILED YOU.
"WHEN YOU WERE RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL--YOU REACHED OUT TO ME.
"YOU NEEDED HELP. AND I-- I REJECTED YOU. I CHOSE NOT TO BELIEVE YOU."
I WAS JUST-- I WAS SO ANGRY. BECAUSE I WAS AFRAID.
I'M ALWAYS AFRAID. OF WHAT I MIGHT LOSE. WHAT SOMEONE LIKE YOU-- OR THE GOBLIN-- MIGHT TAKE FROM ME...
OF WHAT I MIGHT SCREW UP NEXT.
I'M THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, STAN.
YOUR DEATH IS ON MY HANDS. I WILL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF FOR THAT. AND I KNOW YOU DON'T WANT MY HELP--BUT IF I CAN'T GET YOU TO ACCEPT THAT--
--THEN MAYBE I CAN OFFER YOU SOMETHING ELSE. FOR ALL THE EVIL, UNTHINKABLE THINGS HE'S DONE, NORMAN OSBORN ISN'T THE ONE TO BLAME HERE.
I AM. THESE ARE MY SINS. SO IF YOU HAVE TO CLEANSE SOMEONE--

--CLEANSE ME.
...
NO... NOT MY WILL--
--BUT HIS BE DONE!
NOW, NORMAN!
KLK
SYSTEM POWERING ON.

THE FIRST BURST HITS LIKE A TON OF BRICKS.
THEN THEY JUST KEEP COMING, LIKE A POUNDING INSIDE YOUR BRAIN.
I START TO THINK MAYBE WE CAN PULL THIS OFF--
--BUT ONLY IF I BUY US TIME.
NO!
...

HE'S TOO STRONG. AN UNSTOPPABLE FORCE BEARING DOWN ON ME.
I CAN'T HOLD HIM BACK--
I HAVE TO.
COME ON, PETE.
FIGHT.
FIGHT!


I CAN FEEL BONES START TO SNAP.
AAAAARRR!
BUT THEN I FEEL SOMETHING ELSE--
--THE GROUND BENEATH MY FEET.

WHAT--?!
WHAT-- WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
AN OLD TRICK. I KNOW THIS WON'T STOP YOU FOR GOOD, STAN--
--BUT IT MIGHT SLOW YOU DOWN FOR A WHILE.
YOU FOOL! YOU'D GIVE YOUR OWN LIFE-- FOR HIM?!

NO--NOT FOR HIM--
--FOR EVERYONE ELSE.
FOR WHAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE RIGHT.
YEAH, I COULD LIVE WITH THAT.
THEN AGAIN--

--HOW ABOUT I JUST SURVIVE INSTEAD?
THWIP
(ALWAYS EASIER SAID THAN DONE.)
SLIK
NORMAN-- COME ON, GIVE ME A--
--HAND.
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME.

WE HAD A DEAL, NORMAN.
DID WE? I COULD SWEAR I ALREADY TOLD YOU--
--THAT DEBT HAS BEEN PAID.
PLEASE UNDERSTAND--THIS ISN'T HOW I WANTED IT TO BE, PETER. FOR EITHER OF US.
I MEAN, LOOK AROUND-- ALL THESE GRAND PLANS I'D MADE--THAT'S WHAT YOU DESERVE. A TRUE HERO'S DEATH, FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE--
--NOT DROWNING ALONE IN THE MUD.
BUT NONE OF US GET TO CHOOSE THESE THINGS, DO WE?
I SUPPOSE IN TIME I'LL LEARN TO LIVE WITH THE DISAPPOINTMENT.
NORMAN-- NO...
...NO...
NO?

GWEN?
MILES?!

IS THIS-- A SURPRISE PARTY OR SOMETHING?
IF SO, YOU ALL HAVE FANTASTIC TIMING.
SYSTEM POWERING DOWN.
IT'S A RESCUE MISSION, REALLY.
AND IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A PRE-EMPTIVE ONE--
--BUT THERE WAS A BIT OF CONTROVERSY ALONG THE WAY.
WE KNEW YOU WERE IN GRAVE DANGER-- IT WAS JUST A QUESTION OF WHEN AND HOW TO INTERVENE.
I DON'T GET IT--WERE YOU HERE TO SAVE ME FROM THE SIN-EATER, OR FROM--
THE OTHER GUY. THE DEBATE WAS WHETHER OR NOT TO THROW HIM TO THE SIN-EATER DUDE IN THE FIRST PLACE--
--AND WE ALMOST DID IT.
SO WHAT HAPPENED?
I DID--

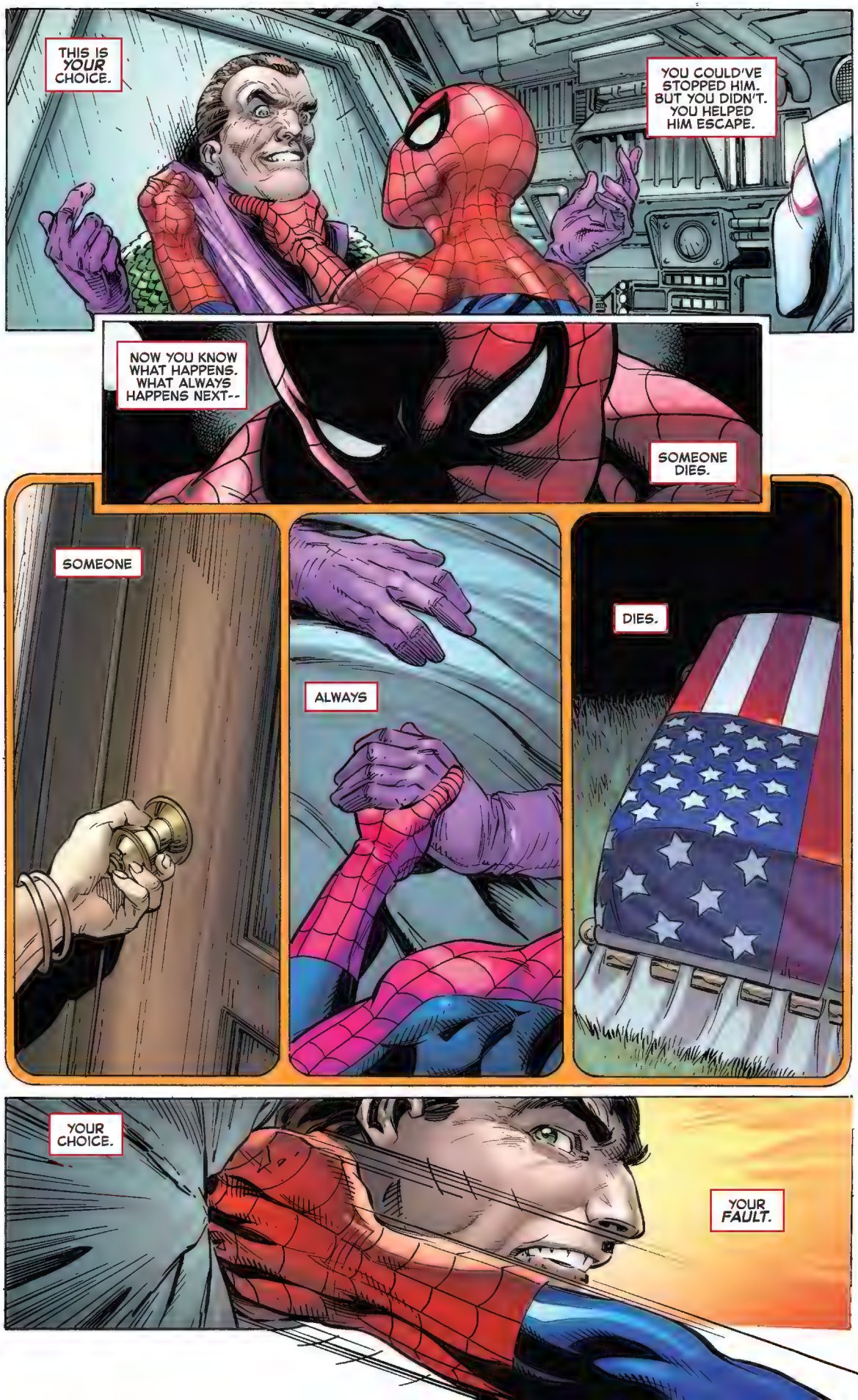
I SAID IT WAS *YOUR* CALL. A RESPECT MOVE.
I REGRET IT ALREADY.
ALL THAT'S LEFT TO DECIDE IS WHAT TO DO WITH *THIS* GUY.
PETER, THANK HEAVENS.
YOU *SEE*, MY BOY? I TOLD YOU IT WOULD ALL WORK OUT IN THE END--
--SO LONG AS WE STICK TOGETHER.
COME ON, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
THIS PLACE IS GONNA COME DOWN--
--AND THAT TRAP WON'T HOLD SIN-EATER FOR MORE THAN A COUPLE MINUTES.

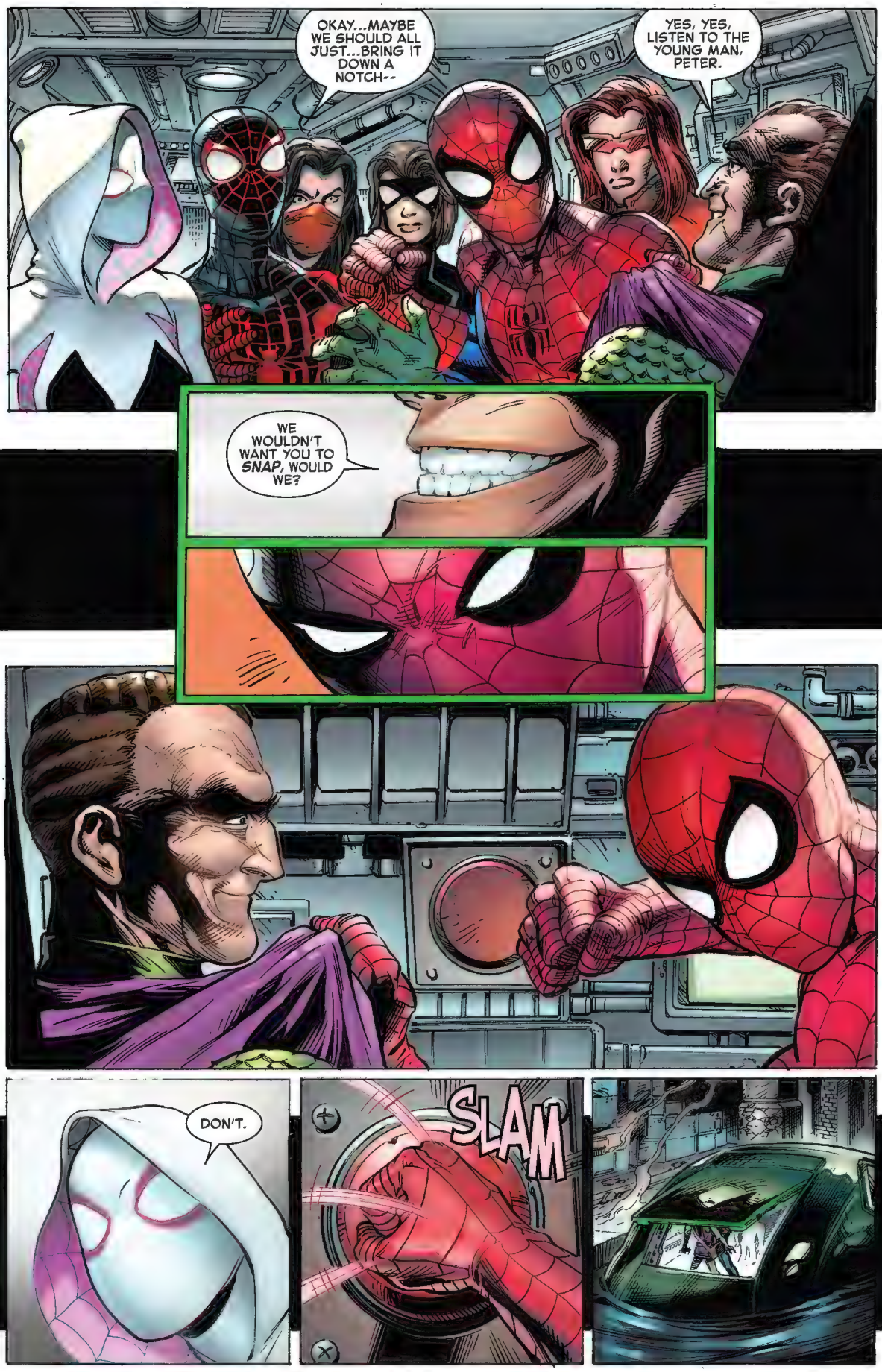
DOES ANYONE KNOW HOW TO *PILOT* THIS THING?
AHEM. AS THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE *CONSTRUCTION* OF THIS VESSEL, I WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO ASSIST WITH--
NORMAN.
SIT DOWN. STAY THERE.
I'M SURE I CAN MANAGE. ASSUMING WE KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOING.
ANYWHERE. APPARENTLY THIS LEADS RIGHT OUT TO THE HUDSON. SO BRING US UP--AND FAST.
THAT TRAP WON'T HOLD LONG. I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO DEAL WITH SIN-EATER ONCE AND FOR ALL--
"--I JUST NEED TO HIDE OUR UNWANTED GUEST FIRST."
SNIFF
SNIFF
PARDON ME--I COULDN'T HELP BUT OVERHEAR. BACK IN THE CHAOS. DID SOMEONE CALL YOU...

...GWEN?
GWEN...
...IT--IT IS YOU, ISN'T IT? OH MY--
I'D HEARD RUMORS, OF COURSE, BUT EVEN STILL--
--TO ACTUALLY SEE YOU. TO BE NEAR YOU. WELL, IT'S, FORGIVE ME, IT'S JUST ALL A BIT...
...INTOXICATING.
EVEN IF IT'S NOT QUITE THE SAME.
WHO ARE YOU, THEN? ONE OF THE JACKAL'S CLONES? SOMEONE FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION? BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT QUITE MY GWENNIE, ARE YOU?
I'M NOT YOUR ANYTHING.
NO, YOU'RE NOT--
--BUT GIVE IT TIME.
YOUR ORIGINAL AND I, I'M SURE YOU KNOW, WE HAD QUITE A LOT OF HISTORY.
BUT I PREFER TO FOCUS ON THE HAPPIER TIMES.
HEY!

GET AWAY FROM HER.
;SIGH; I'D BE HAPPY TO, BUT YOU TOLD ME NOT TO MOVE, REMEMBER? BESIDES--
--IT FELT LIKE WE WERE JUST STARTING TO MAKE A CONNECTION.
YOU DON'T TALK TO HER. YOU DON'T EVEN LOOK AT HER. YOU UNDERSTAND ME?
UH, EXCUSE ME--
--I REALLY DON'T NEED YOU TO PROTECT ME, THANKS.
KEEP TALKING, BUDDY. I'D LOVE TO FINISH ONE OF THOSE SENTENCES FOR YOU.
OOH, SHE'S GOT SOME FIRE IN HER, DOESN'T SHE?
JUST LIKE THE OLD DAYS. MY MY, PETER, I MUST SAY--THIS NEWFOUND PARTNERSHIP IS ALREADY PAYING DIVIDENDS, ISN'T IT?
I'M SURE WE CAN KEEP HER AROUND FOR A WHILE.

OF COURSE, WE MUSTN'T LET OURSELVES GET TOO ATTACHED. IT'S THE WORK THAT MATTERS MOST, AFTER ALL.
SHUT... UP...
AND TRY AS SHE MIGHT, IN THE END, IT WILL ALWAYS BE JUST ME AND YOU. BUT I PROMISE YOU, PETER, WHEN THAT DAY COMES, I'LL MAKE SURE IT'S AS QUICK AND PAINLESS AS I CAN STAND.
I SAID-- SHUT! UP!
SHE DESERVES THAT.
ALL OF THEM DO.
YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING.
IS THAT EMPIRE STATE?
NORMAN... WHAT ARE--
HE WILL KILL AGAIN.
THIS IS YOUR CHOICE.

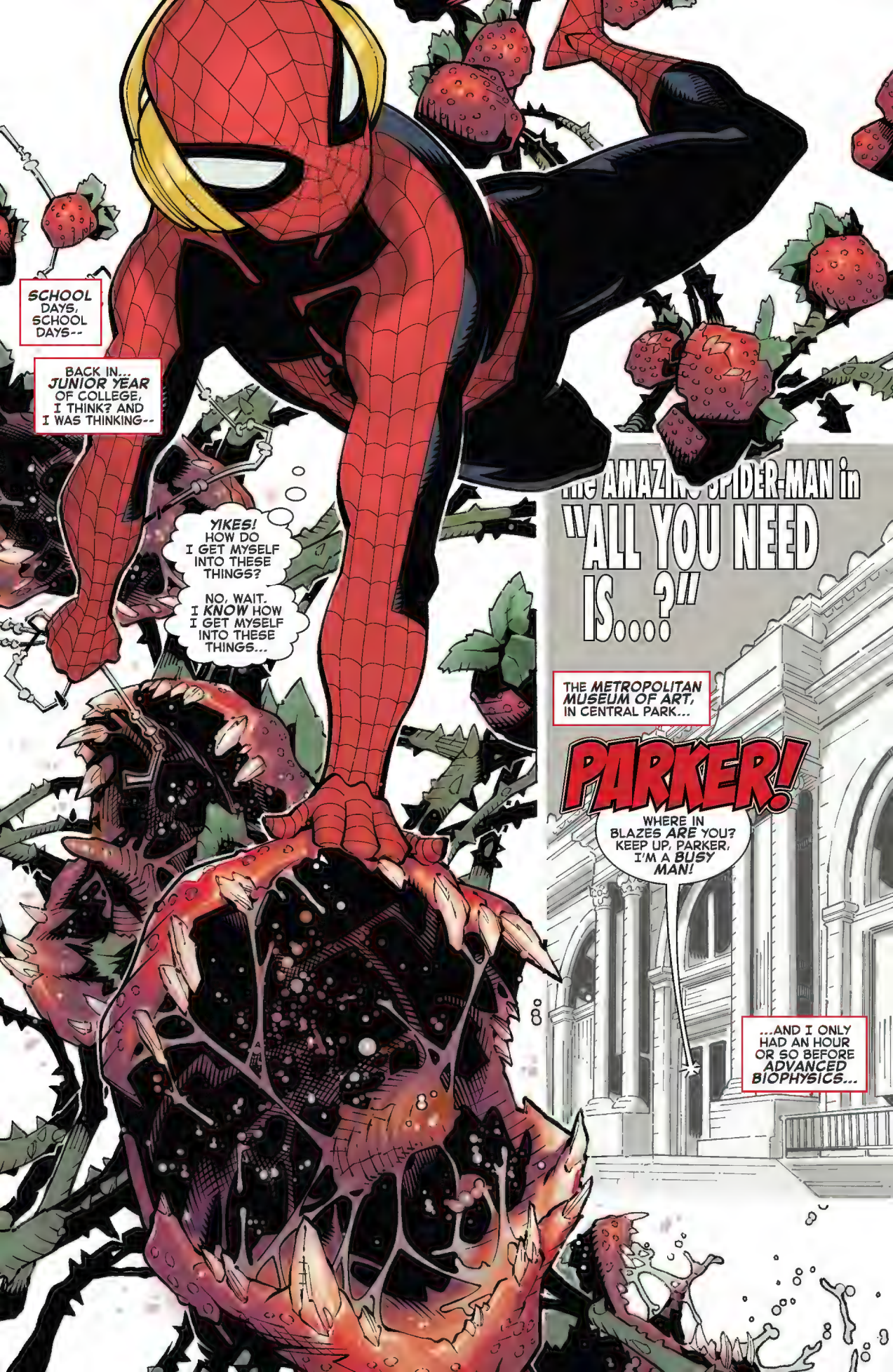

THIS IS YOUR CHOICE.
YOU COULD'VE STOPPED HIM. BUT YOU DIDN'T. YOU HELPED HIM ESCAPE.
NOW YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS. WHAT ALWAYS HAPPENS NEXT--
SOMEONE DIES.
SOMEONE
ALWAYS
DIES.
YOUR CHOICE.
YOUR FAULT.

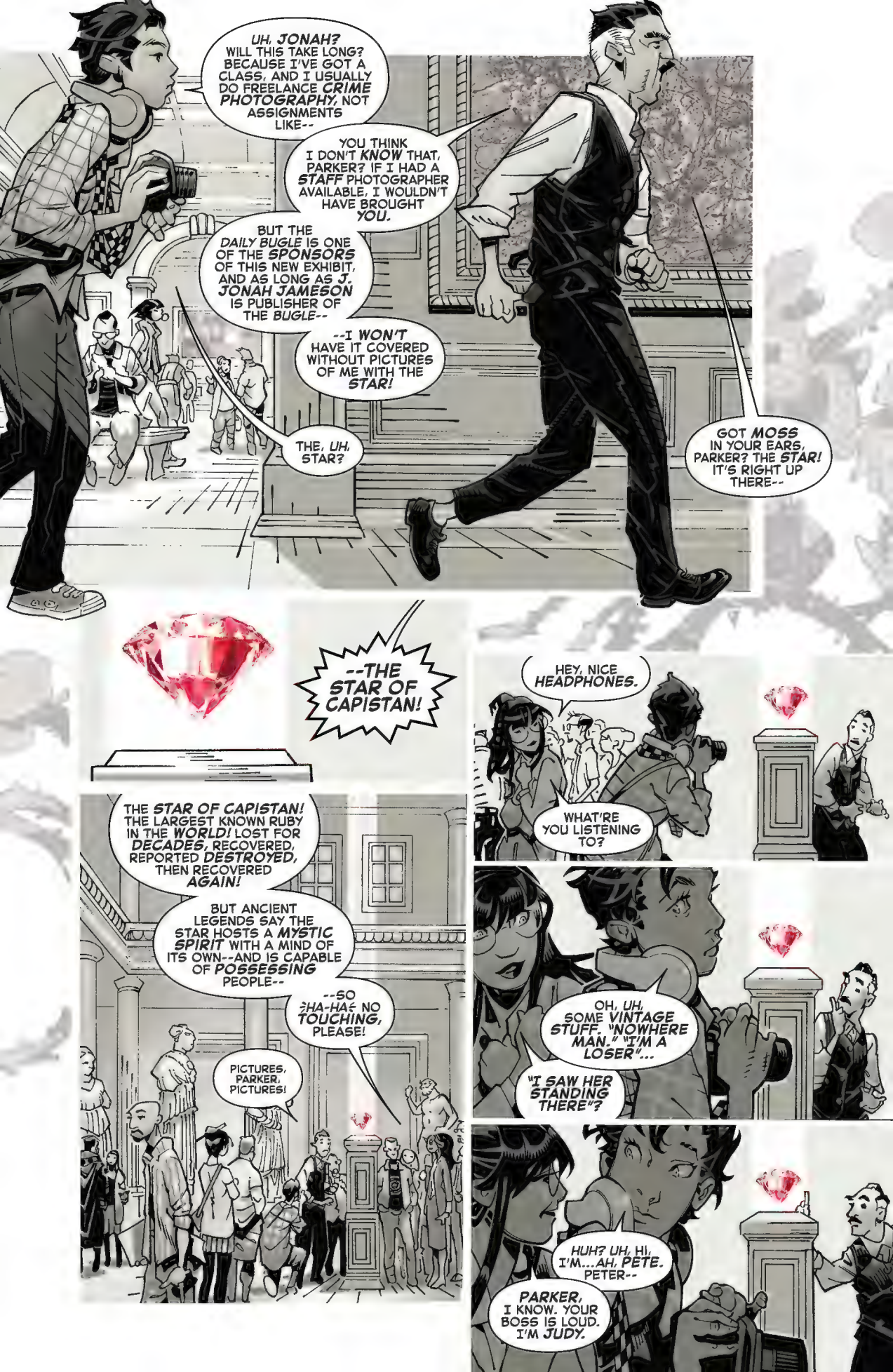

OKAY...MAYBE WE SHOULD ALL JUST...BRING IT DOWN A NOTCH--
YES, YES, LISTEN TO THE YOUNG MAN, PETER.
WE WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO SNAP, WOULD WE?
DON'T.
SLAM

...WHAT DID YOU JUST DO?
I MADE A DIFFERENT CHOICE.
NO, YOU DIDN'T.
BUT IT'S TOO LATE NOW.
SHE'S RIGHT.
RAMOS
BUT FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, PETE?
I GET WHY YOU DID IT.

HE WAS NEVER GONNA STOP. HE WOULD KILL THEM ALL.
AND SURE, YOU HAD THOSE CONVERSATIONS. YOU HAD YOUR HIGH-MINDED PRINCIPLES.
YOU COULD SEE THE SOLUTION TO HIM, BUT YOU JUST COULDN'T BRING YOURSELF TO ALLOW IT.
KIND OF A DIFFERENT THING WHEN IT'S STARING YOU RIGHT IN THE FACE, THOUGH, ISN'T IT? WHEN YOU KNOW WHAT'S COMING.
WHEN YOU FEEL IT.
SO, YEAH, DON'T BEAT YOURSELF UP. IT'S PERFECTLY UNDERSTANDABLE.
ONE WRONG, TO DO SO MUCH RIGHT? TO SAVE SO MANY LIVES?
BUT THIS IS WHAT I KEEP TRYING TO TELL YOU, PETE.
THE LESSON YOU GOTTA LEARN, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.
THIS IS HOW IT ALWAYS IS WITH OUR SINS.
NO MATTER HOW DEEP YOU LAY THEM IN THE GROUND--

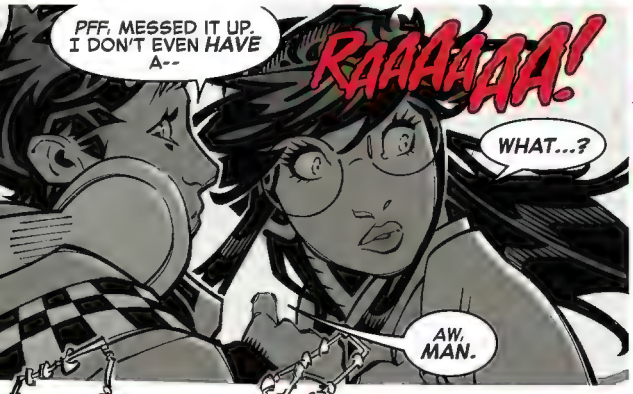
--THEY NEVER STAY BURIED.
TO BE CONTINUED!

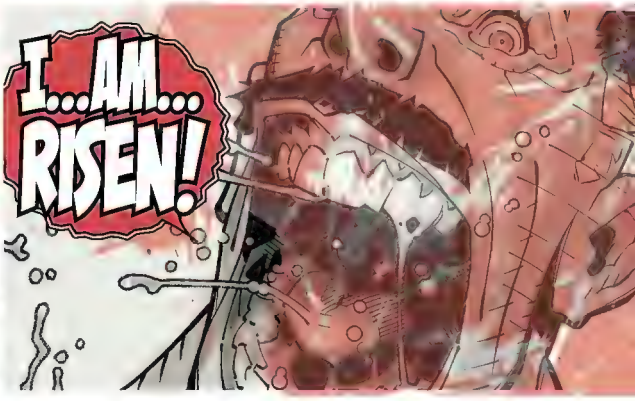

SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS--
BACK IN... JUNIOR YEAR OF COLLEGE, I THINK? AND I WAS THINKING--
YIKES! HOW DO I GET MYSELF INTO THESE THINGS?
NO, WAIT. I KNOW HOW I GET MYSELF INTO THESE THINGS...
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN in "ALL YOU NEED IS...?"
THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, IN CENTRAL PARK...
PARKER!
WHERE IN BLAZES ARE YOU? KEEP UP, PARKER, I'M A BUSY MAN!
...AND I ONLY HAD AN HOUR OR SO BEFORE ADVANCED BIOPHYSICS...


UH, JONAH? WILL THIS TAKE LONG? BECAUSE I'VE GOT A CLASS, AND I USUALLY DO FREELANCE CRIME PHOTOGRAPHY, NOT ASSIGNMENTS LIKE--
YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW THAT, PARKER? IF I HAD A STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER AVAILABLE, I WOULDN'T HAVE BROUGHT YOU.
BUT THE DAILY BUGLE IS ONE OF THE SPONSORS OF THIS NEW EXHIBIT, AND AS LONG AS J. JONAH JAMESON IS PUBLISHER OF THE BUGLE--
--I WON'T HAVE IT COVERED WITHOUT PICTURES OF ME WITH THE STAR!
THE, UH, STAR?
GOT MOSS IN YOUR EARS, PARKER? THE STAR! IT'S RIGHT UP THERE--
--THE STAR OF CAPISTAN!
THE STAR OF CAPISTAN! THE LARGEST KNOWN RUBY IN THE WORLD! LOST FOR DECADES, RECOVERED, REPORTED DESTROYED, THEN RECOVERED AGAIN!
BUT ANCIENT LEGENDS SAY THE STAR HOSTS A MYSTIC SPIRIT WITH A MIND OF ITS OWN--AND IS CAPABLE OF POSSESSING PEOPLE--
--SO ¿HA-HA? NO TOUCHING, PLEASE!
PICTURES, PARKER. PICTURES!
HEY, NICE HEADPHONES.
WHAT'RE YOU LISTENING TO?
OH, UH, SOME VINTAGE STUFF. "NOWHERE MAN." "I'M A LOSER"...
"I SAW HER STANDING THERE"?
HUH? UH, HI, I'M...AH, PETE. PETER--
PARKER, I KNOW. YOUR BOSS IS LOUD. I'M JUDY.

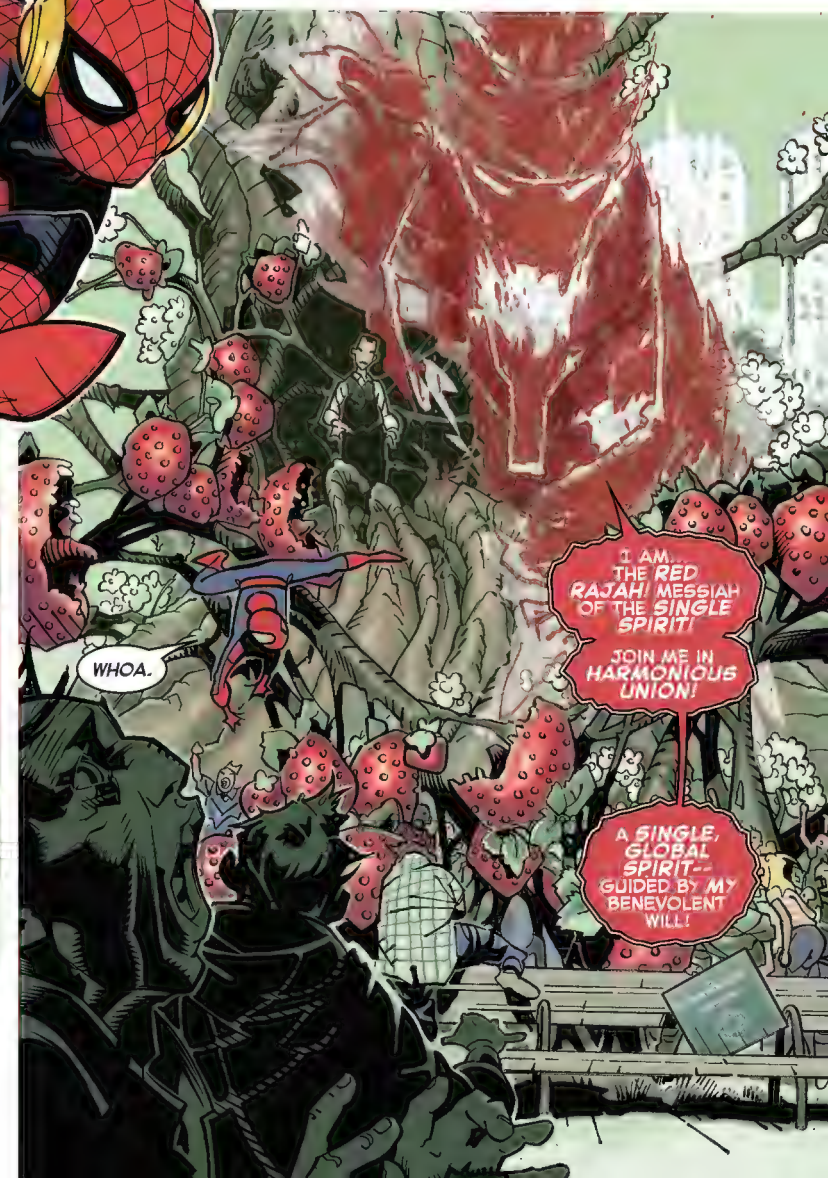
WELL, "HEY, JUDE"--
HA! "SAY THE WORD I'M THINKING OF..."
"I'M HAPPY JUST TO DANCE WITH YOU."

"ANY TIME AT ALL!"
"BABY, YOU CAN DRIVE MY--"
UT!


PFF. MESSED IT UP. I DON'T EVEN HAVE A--
RAAAAAAA!
WHAT...?
AW, MAN.


I...AM... RISEN!

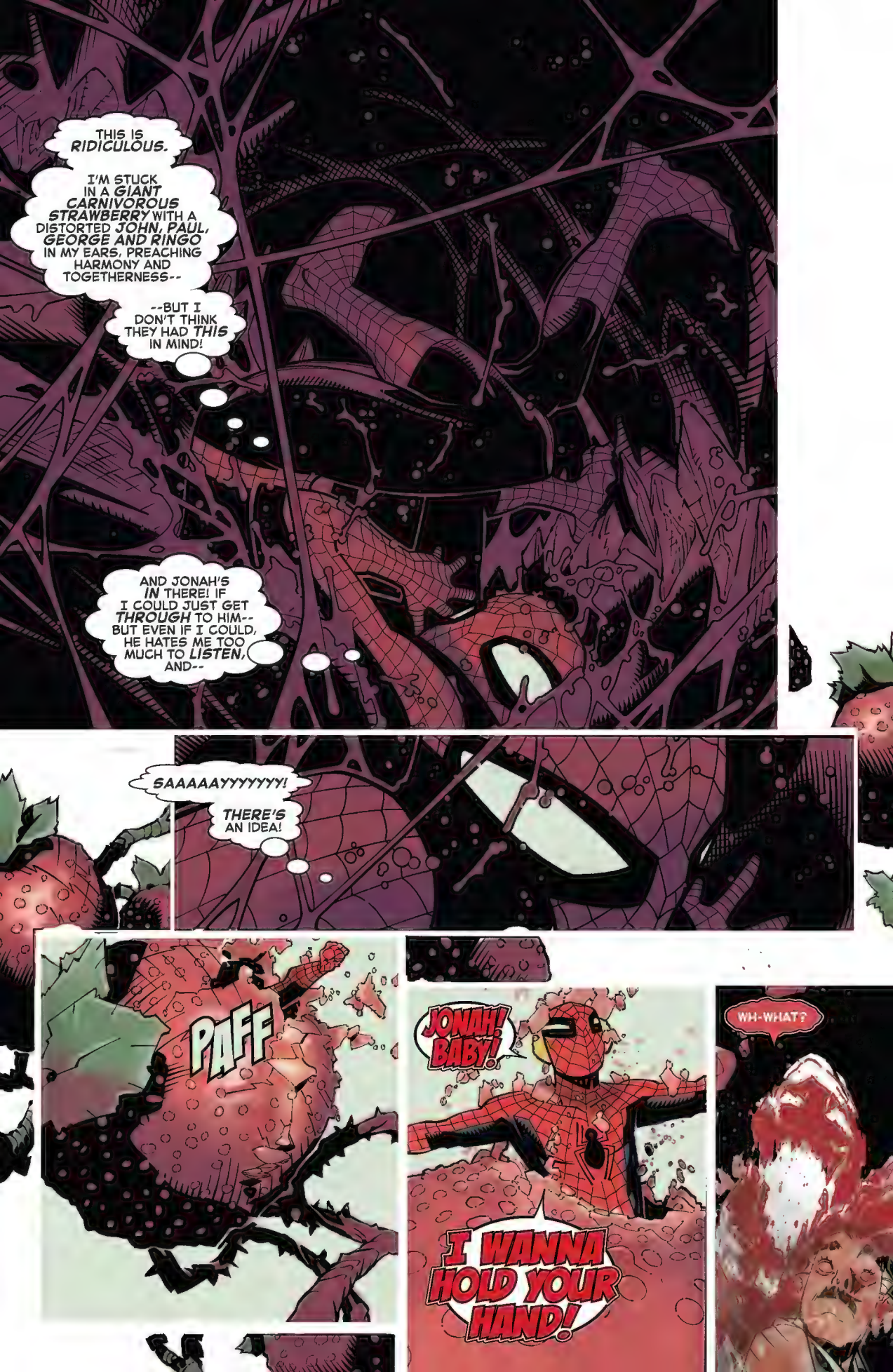
AND THERE WE WENT.
MYSTIC LEGENDS! MYSTIC FREAKIN' LEGENDS! WHEN WILL PEOPLE LEARN?!
DON'T MESS WITH MYSTIC LEGENDS!
BIG OL' FIGHT, TOOK IT OUTSIDE, ACROSS THE PARK, AND THEN-- THEN THE STRAWBERRIES, BECAUSE WHO KNEW HE WAS INTO THAT--

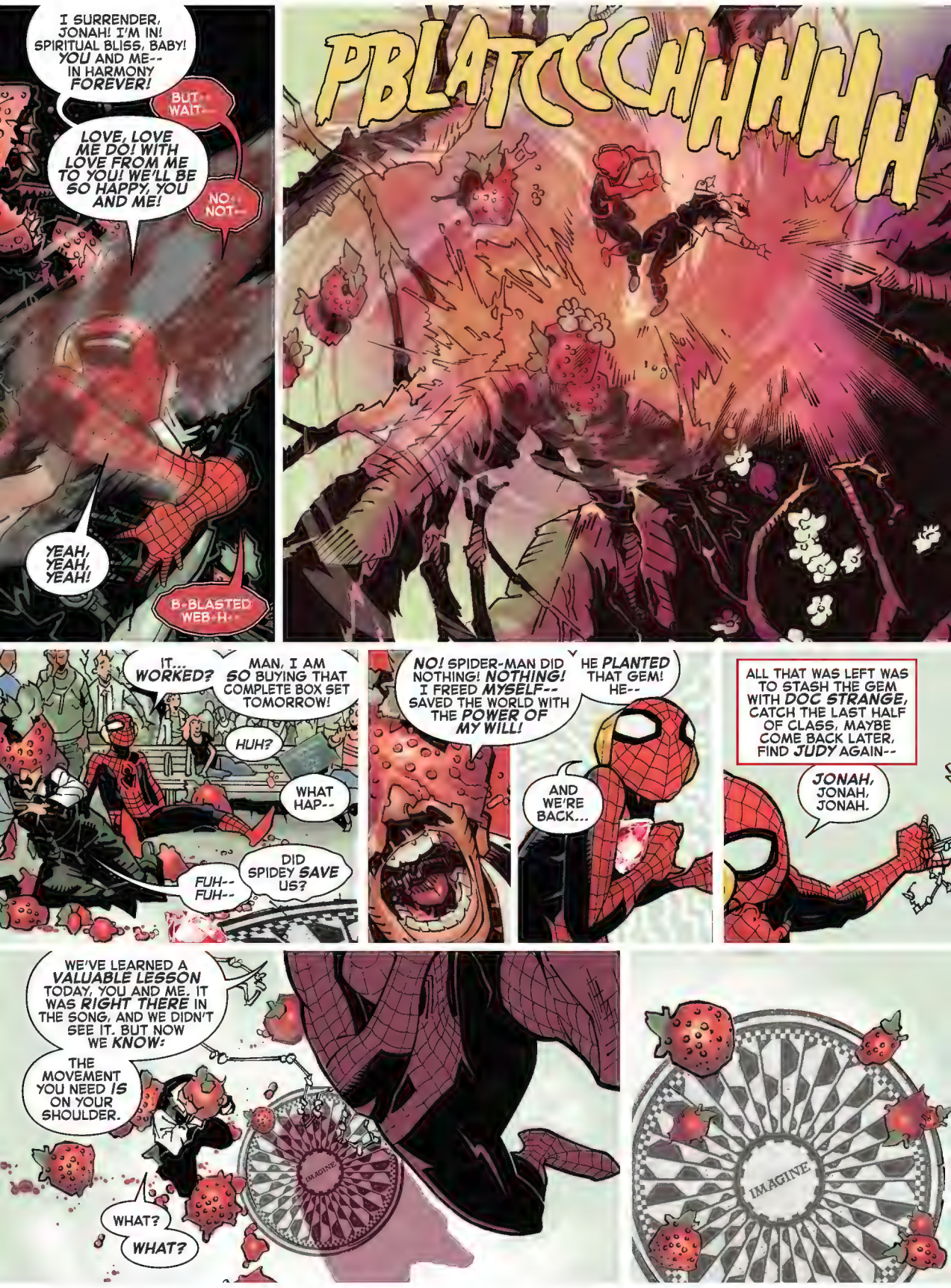

WHOA.
I AM... THE RED RAJAH! MESSIAH OF THE SINGLE SPIRIT!
JOIN ME IN HARMONIOUS UNION!
A SINGLE, GLOBAL SPIRIT-- GUIDED BY MY BENEVOLENT WILL!

"SINGLE, GLOBAL SPIRIT"... THAT DOESN'T SOUND GOOD.
I READ ABOUT THIS RAJAH GUY. FOUGHT THE HULK. DOC STRANGE? MAYBE BOTH. HE DID HAVE A THING FOR UNIVERSAL HARMONY-- HIS WAY.
AND I'D BE AS CAUGHT UP IN HIS MYSTIC WHAMMY AS THOSE ZONKED-OUT PEOPLE DOWN THERE...
...IF I HADN'T MANAGED TO RIG MY HEADPHONES TO SET UP A DISCORDANT SUBSONIC SQUEAL THAT BLOCKS OUT WHATEVER IT IS HE'S DOING!
MAYBE IF I CAN YANK JONAH OUT...
HEY, RAJ! THIS ISN'T HOW TO DO IT! WORLD PEACE, SURE, BUT FREE WILL TOO!
LEMME JUST--
THWIPP
HAH! WALL-CRAWLING TWERP!
HUH? IT...ATE MY WEBS!
FOOL! THE WORLD WILL KNOW UNITY!
SINGLE-SOULED BLISS! AND NONE SHALL STOP ME.
-LEAST OF ALL YOU, YOU MASKED MENACE!
MAN, SPOOKY VOICE, BUT JONAH'S STILL IN THERE, ISN'T HE? HE'S JUST NOT DRIVING THE BUS, THE RAJAH IS. SO--

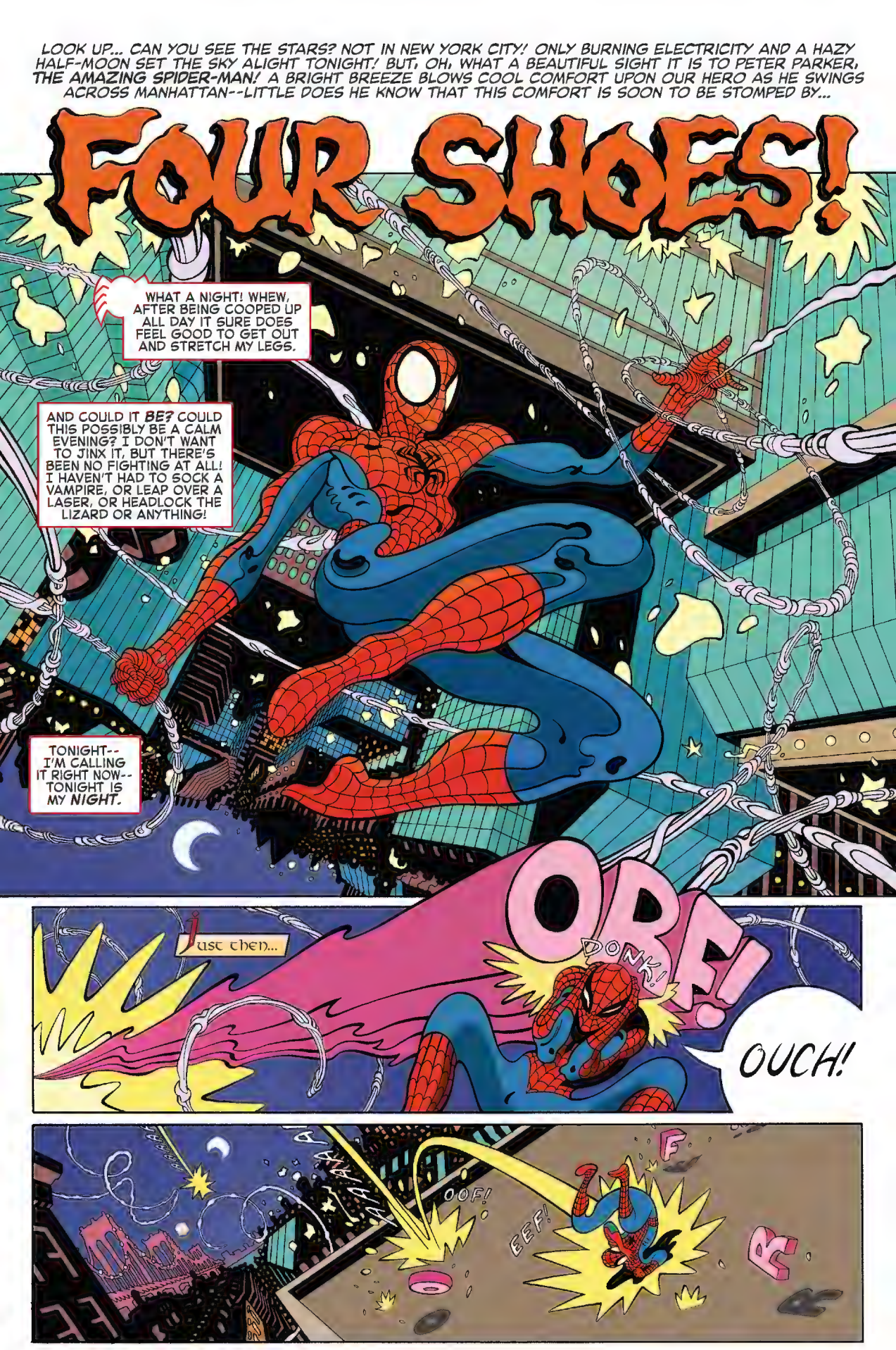
WHAT IN--?
SPLAT
NUTS! HE CALLS THIS UNIVERSAL PEACE? HE'S USING THE CROWD AS HIS PERSONAL FOOT SOLDIERS!
AND IS THAT...?
MARY JANE! JOE ROBERTSON! THEY MUST HAVE COME FOR THE EXHIBIT AND GOT CAUGHT UP IN THE CRAZY!
WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT, JUDY TOO.
I MEAN, USUALLY PEOPLE HAVE TO KNOW ME FOR AT LEAST A WEEK BEFORE THEY START THROWING STUFF AT--
--UH?
CHOMPP

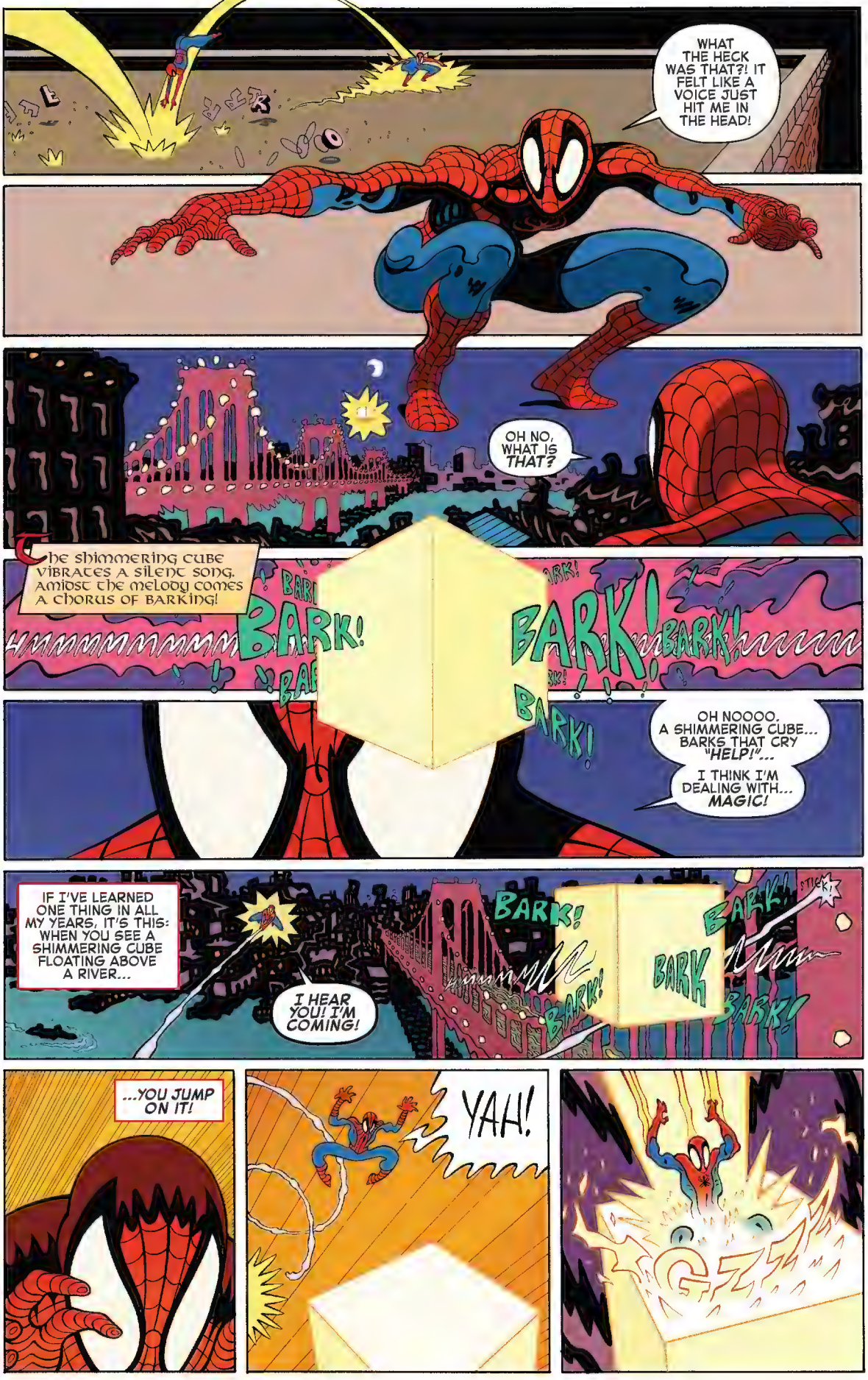
C'MON, JONAH!
REMEMBER, YOU'RE FOR LIBERTY, A FREE PRESS, ALL THAT KINDA GOOD STUFF! THIS JUST ISN'T YOU!
PFAH!
YOU WILL FALL, WEB HEAD! ALL WILL FALL...
...ALL WILL ABANDON THE DICTATORIAL PRISON OF CONSCIOUS THOUGHT. THE CURSE OF INDIVIDUALISM!
ACOLYTES! WHAT DO WE SAY?
JOIN US!
KNOW BLISS!
BECOME ONE WITH THE SINGLE SPIRIT!
GLAAP
AGH!

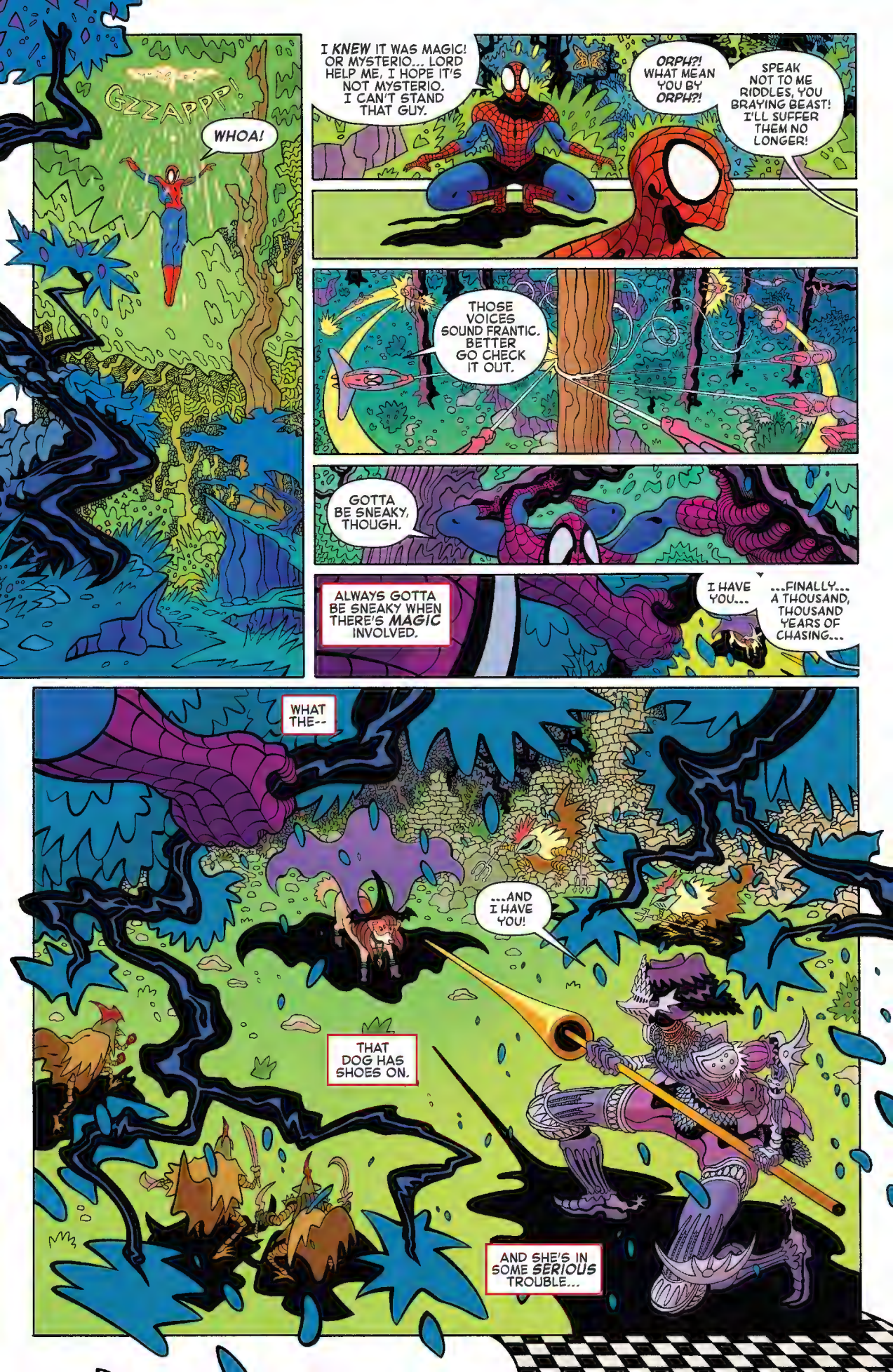

THIS IS RIDICULOUS.
I'M STUCK IN A GIANT CARNIVOROUS STRAWBERRY WITH A DISTORTED JOHN, PAUL, GEORGE AND RINGO IN MY EARS, PREACHING HARMONY AND TOGETHERNESS--
--BUT I DON'T THINK THEY HAD THIS IN MIND!
AND JONAH'S IN THERE! IF I COULD JUST GET THROUGH TO HIM-- BUT EVEN IF I COULD, HE HATES ME TOO MUCH TO LISTEN, AND--
SAAAAAYYYYYYY!
THERE'S AN IDEA!
PAFF
JONAH! BABY!
I WANNA HOLD YOUR HAND!
WH-WHAT?

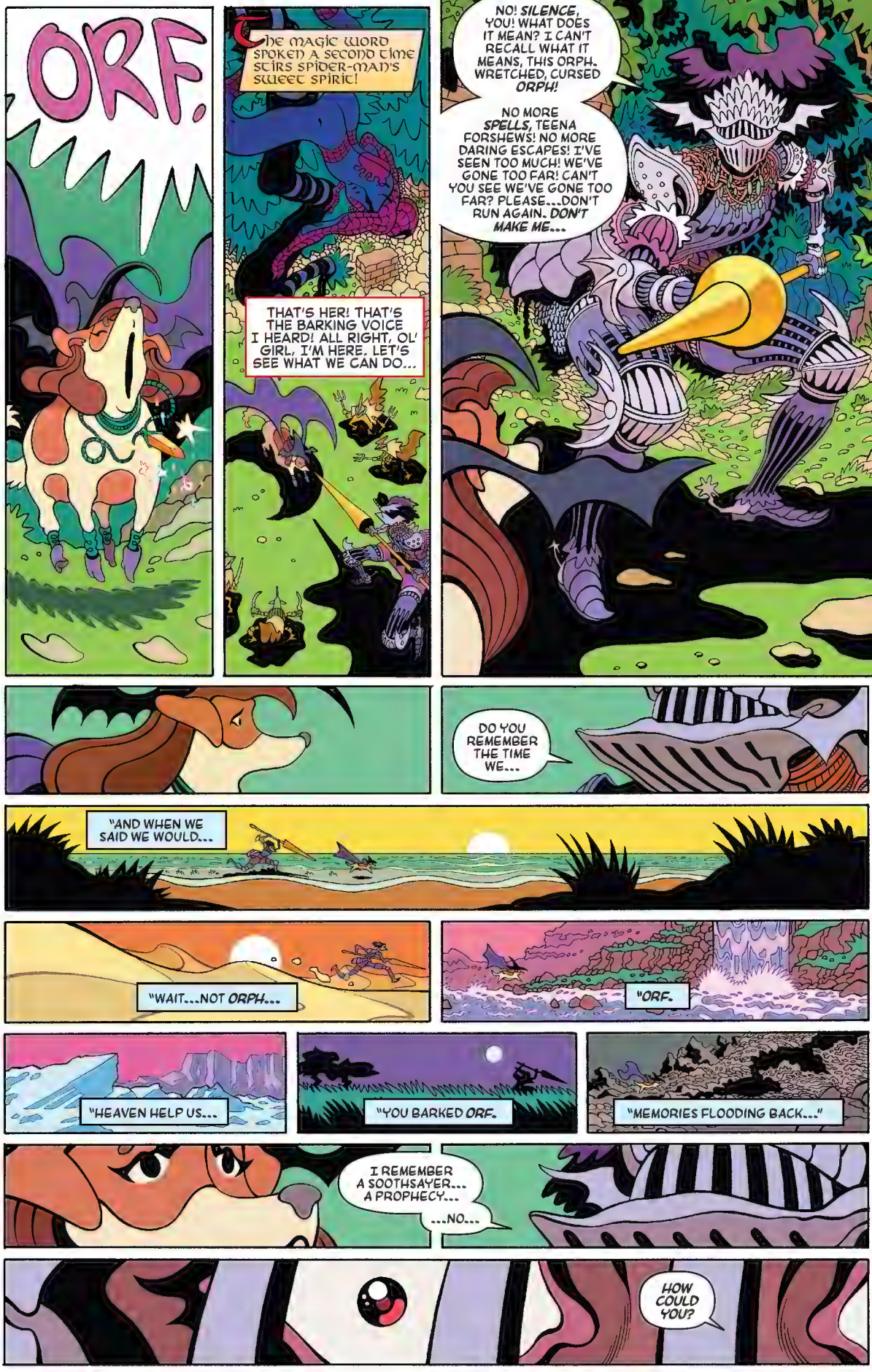

I SURRENDER, JONAH! I'M IN! SPIRITUAL BLISS, BABY! YOU AND ME-- IN HARMONY FOREVER!
BUT WAIT--
LOVE, LOVE ME DO! WITH LOVE FROM ME TO YOU! WE'LL BE SO HAPPY, YOU AND ME!
NO, NOT--
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH!
B-BLASTED WEB-H--
PBLATCCCHHHHH
IT... WORKED?
MAN, I AM SO BUYING THAT COMPLETE BOX SET TOMORROW!
HUH?
WHAT HAP--
FUH-- FUH--
DID SPIDEY SAVE US?
NO! SPIDER-MAN DID NOTHING! NOTHING! I FREED MYSELF-- SAVED THE WORLD WITH THE POWER OF MY WILL!
HE PLANTED THAT GEM! HE--
AND WE'RE BACK...
ALL THAT WAS LEFT WAS TO STASH THE GEM WITH DOC STRANGE, CATCH THE LAST HALF OF CLASS, MAYBE COME BACK LATER, FIND JUDY AGAIN--
JONAH, JONAH, JONAH.
WE'VE LEARNED A VALUABLE LESSON TODAY, YOU AND ME. IT WAS RIGHT THERE IN THE SONG, AND WE DIDN'T SEE IT. BUT NOW WE KNOW:
THE MOVEMENT YOU NEED IS ON YOUR SHOULDER.
WHAT? WHAT?
IMAGINE
IMAGINE

THE END


LOOK UP... CAN YOU SEE THE STARS? NOT IN NEW YORK CITY! ONLY BURNING ELECTRICITY AND A HAZY HALF-MOON SET THE SKY ALIGHT TONIGHT! BUT, OH, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT IT IS TO PETER PARKER, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! A BRIGHT BREEZE BLOWS COOL COMFORT UPON OUR HERO AS HE SWINGS ACROSS MANHATTAN--LITTLE DOES HE KNOW THAT THIS COMFORT IS SOON TO BE STOMPED BY...
FOUR SHOES!
WHAT A NIGHT! WHEW, AFTER BEING COOPED UP ALL DAY IT SURE DOES FEEL GOOD TO GET OUT AND STRETCH MY LEGS.
AND COULD IT BE? COULD THIS POSSIBLY BE A CALM EVENING? I DON'T WANT TO JINX IT, BUT THERE'S BEEN NO FIGHTING AT ALL! I HAVEN'T HAD TO SOCK A VAMPIRE, OR LEAP OVER A LASER, OR HEADLOCK THE LIZARD OR ANYTHING!
TONIGHT-- I'M CALLING IT RIGHT NOW-- TONIGHT IS MY NIGHT.
Just then...
OOF!
DONK!
OUCH!
OOF!
EEF!


WHAT THE HECK WAS THAT?! IT FELT LIKE A VOICE JUST HIT ME IN THE HEAD!
OH NO, WHAT IS THAT?
The shimmering cube vibrates a silent song. Amidst the melody comes a chorus of barking!
BARK!
OH NOOOO. A SHIMMERING CUBE... BARKS THAT CRY "HELP!"...
I THINK I'M DEALING WITH... MAGIC!
IF I'VE LEARNED ONE THING IN ALL MY YEARS, IT'S THIS: WHEN YOU SEE A SHIMMERING CUBE FLOATING ABOVE A RIVER...
I HEAR YOU! I'M COMING!
...YOU JUMP ON IT!
YAH!
GZZZ

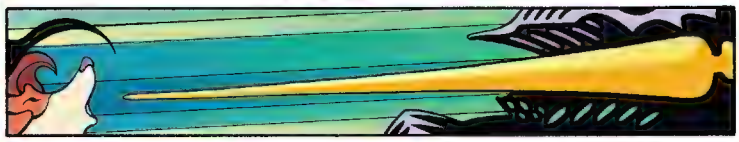

GZZAPPP!
WHOA!
I KNEW IT WAS MAGIC! OR MYSTERIO... LORD HELP ME, I HOPE IT'S NOT MYSTERIO. I CAN'T STAND THAT GUY.
ORPH?! WHAT MEAN YOU BY ORPH?!
SPEAK NOT TO ME RIDDLES, YOU BRAYING BEAST! I'LL SUFFER THEM NO LONGER!
THOSE VOICES SOUND FRANTIC. BETTER GO CHECK IT OUT.
GOTTA BE SNEAKY, THOUGH.
ALWAYS GOTTA BE SNEAKY WHEN THERE'S MAGIC INVOLVED.
I HAVE YOU...
...FINALLY... A THOUSAND, THOUSAND YEARS OF CHASING...
WHAT THE--
...AND I HAVE YOU!
THAT DOG HAS SHOES ON.
AND SHE'S IN SOME SERIOUS TROUBLE...

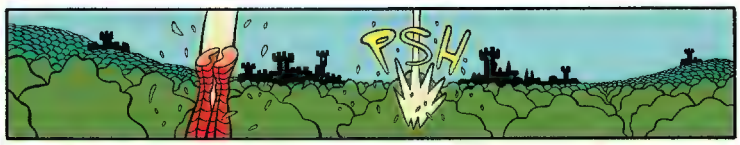

ORF.
The magic word spoken a second time stirs Spider-Man's sweet spirit!
That's her! That's the barking voice I heard! All right, ol' girl, I'm here. Let's see what we can do...
No! SILENCE, you! What does it mean? I can't recall what it means, this orph. Wretched, cursed ORPH!
No more SPELLS, Teena Forshews! No more daring escapes! I've seen too much! We've gone too far! Can't you see we've gone too far? Please...don't run again. DON'T MAKE ME...
Do you remember the time we...
"And when we said we would...
"Wait...not ORPH...
"ORF.
"Heaven help us...
"You barked ORF.
"Memories flooding back..."
I remember a soothsayer... a prophecy...
...no...
How could you?

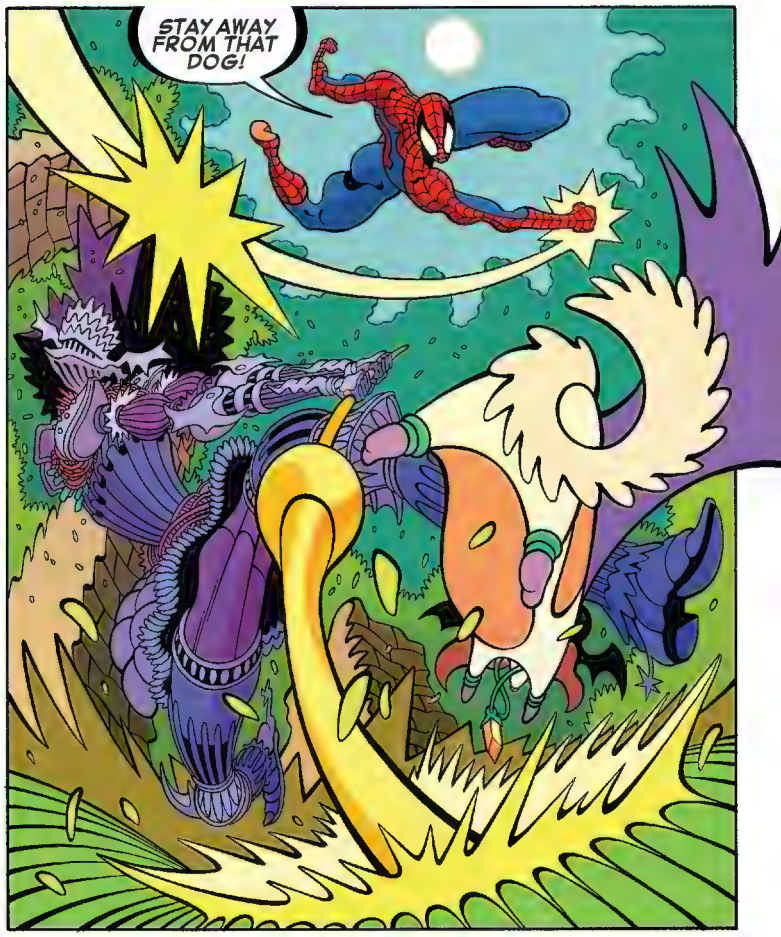
UNDER SUNDERED
HALF-MOON
'BOVE EARTH SHAPE
NEON BLACK
A SPIDER
WILL COME
TO DIVIDE YOU
TO DIVIDE YOU
ONE WORD,
THREE TIMES
'TWEEN TWO,
BY ONE
A SPIDER
WILL COME
TO DIVIDE YOU
TO DIVIDE YOU
CALL "ORF,"
CRY THRICE
RED DEVIL,
BLUE FRIEND
A SPIDER
WILL COME
TO DIVIDE YOU
TO DIVIDE YOU

DON'T SAY IT AGAIN, TEENA!
THE THIRD TIME WILL TEAR US APART!

ORF



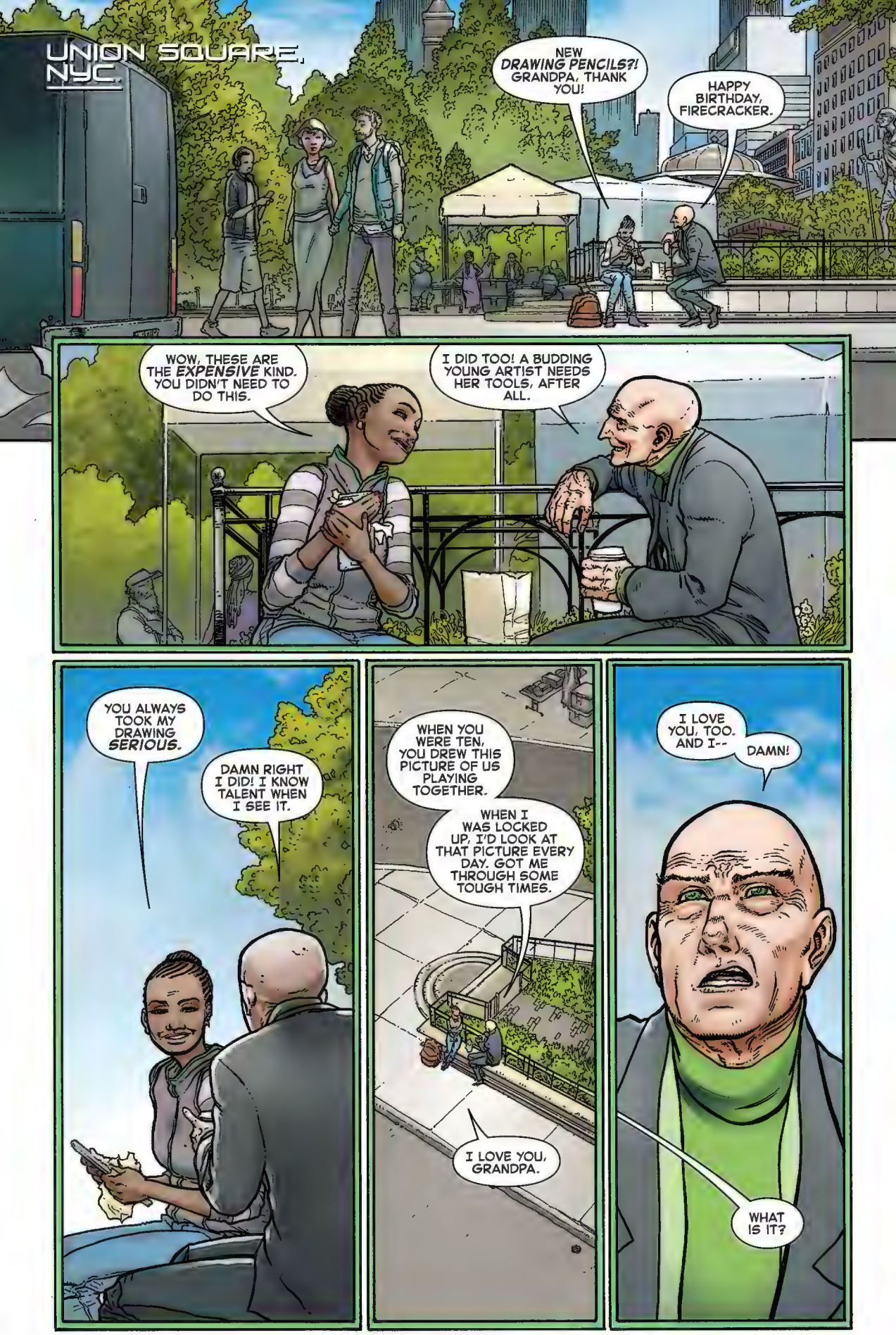

PSH

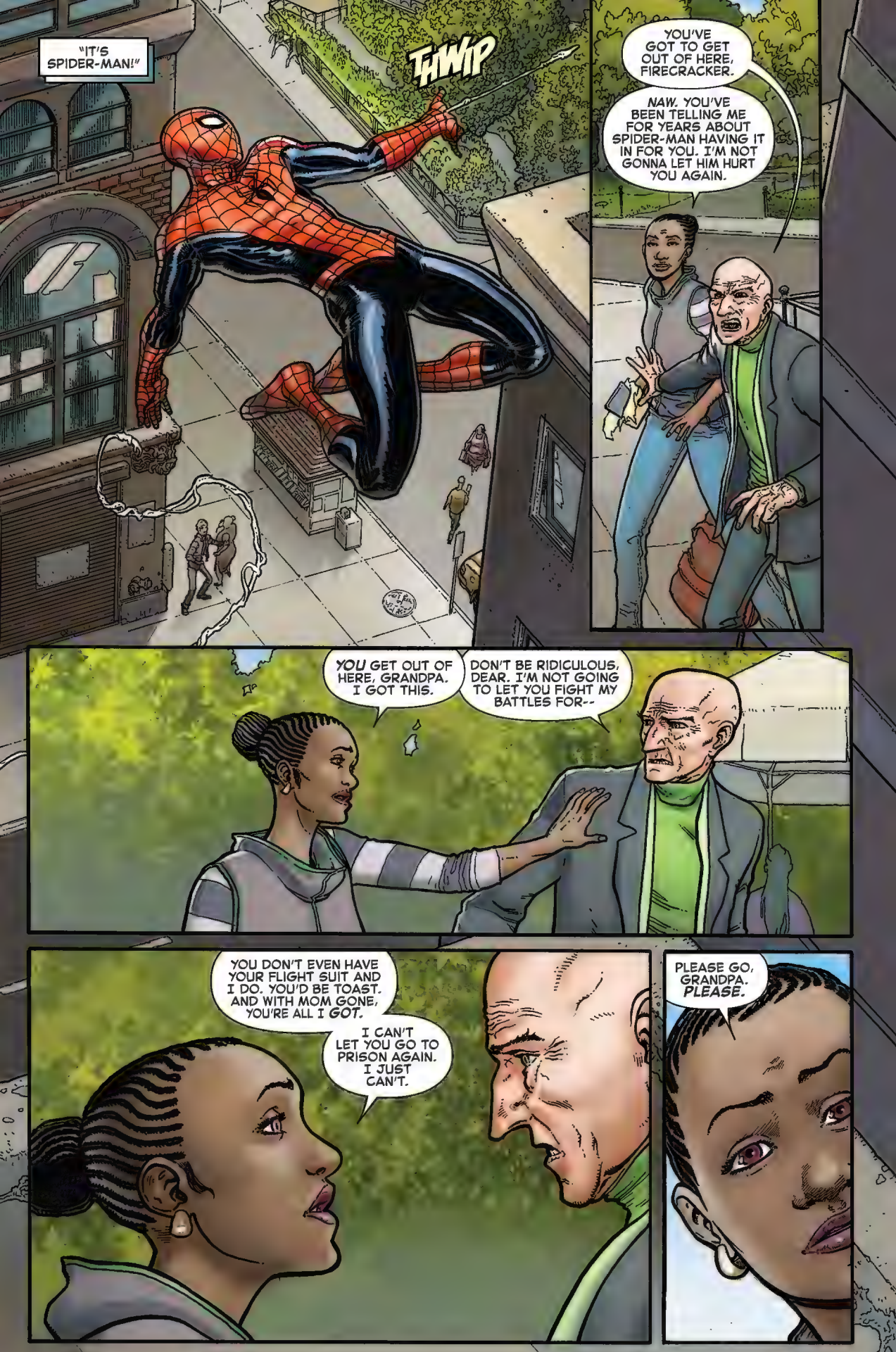

STAY AWAY FROM THAT DOG!

The third "orf" manifests action! Spider-man and Teena fight Pellinora and her chicken devils with a fury never seen before by the firs of this forest!
PEOW!
PEOW!
PEOW!
BIG
PUG

Victory!
HA! THAT'S WHAT YOU GET! DON'T YOU KNOW ATTACKING DOGS IS BAAAA--
SOB
SOB
SOB
SOB
SOB
Alas, in war there are no victors.
--AAAAAD. BAD. I FEEL EXTREMELY BAD RIGHT NOW.
TEENA, I'M SO SORRY. YOU KNOW I'D NEVER HURT YOU. I JUST... PLEASE...
PLEASE DON'T GO. DON'T LEAVE ME. I KNOW YOU HAVE OTHER DREAMS, BUT...
...I CAN'T...WHAT ARE WE WITHOUT EACH OTHER? WITHOUT THE QUEST?
WITHOUT THE CHASE?
AWWWOOO

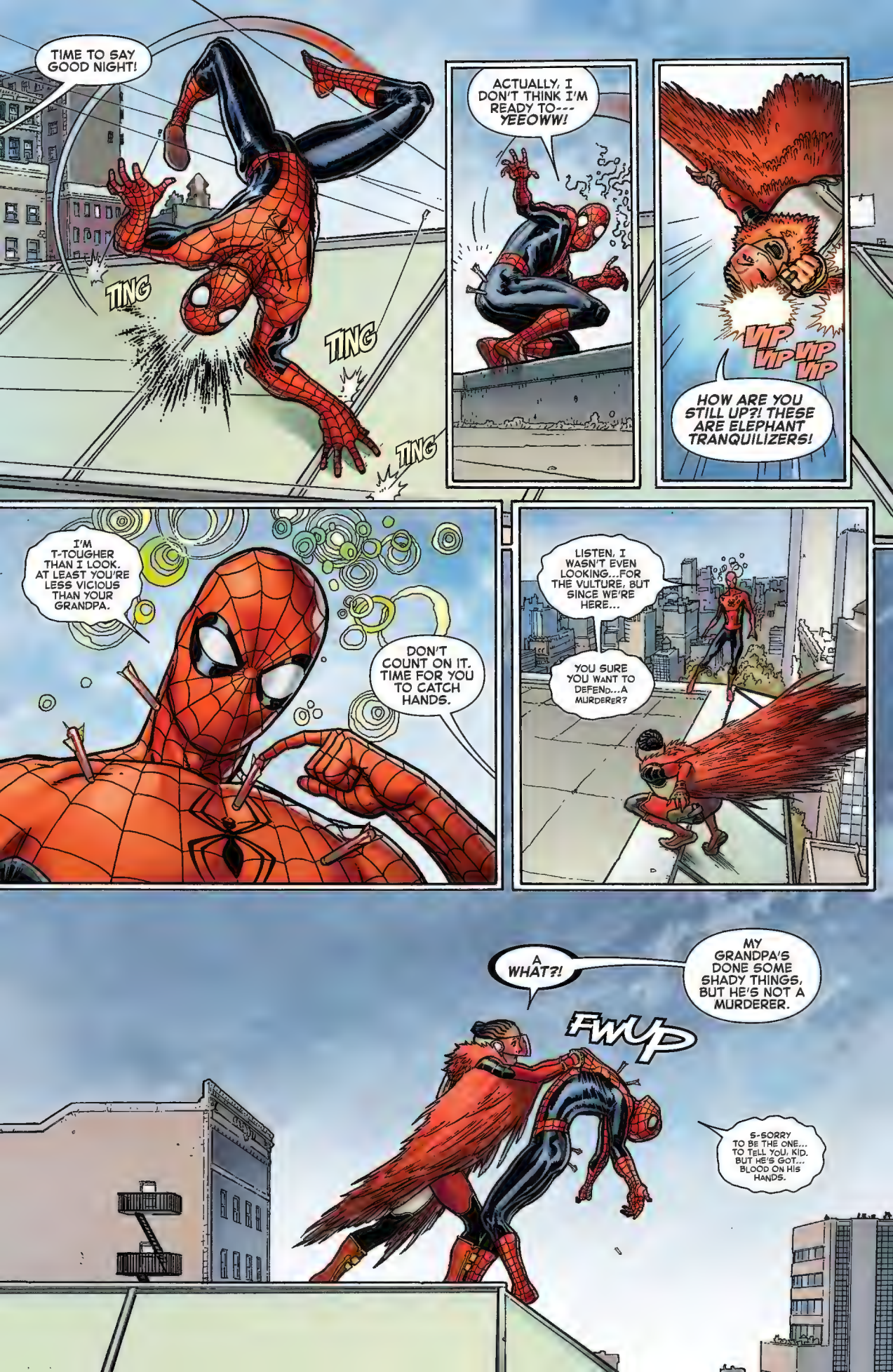
TOH
"WHAT ARE WE?"
WHOOAAAAAA!
THWIP!
OOF!
SO, YOUR NAME IS TINA? DID I HEAR THAT CORRECTLY?
RUFF.
TINA FOUR-SHOES? THAT'S AMAZING. AND YOU'RE A... WIZARD?
RUFF.
NICE!
I KNOW A SORCERER OVER ON BLEECKER STREET I GOTTA INTRODUCE YOU TO.
Who needs stars anyway?
Sleep tight, true believers.
TO BE CONTINUED?


UNION SQUARE, NYC
NEW DRAWING PENCILS?! GRANDPA, THANK YOU!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FIRECRACKER.
WOW, THESE ARE THE EXPENSIVE KIND. YOU DIDN'T NEED TO DO THIS.
I DID TOO! A BUDDING YOUNG ARTIST NEEDS HER TOOLS, AFTER ALL.
YOU ALWAYS TOOK MY DRAWING SERIOUS.
DAMN RIGHT I DID! I KNOW TALENT WHEN I SEE IT.
WHEN YOU WERE TEN, YOU DREW THIS PICTURE OF US PLAYING TOGETHER.
WHEN I WAS LOCKED UP, I'D LOOK AT THAT PICTURE EVERY DAY. GOT ME THROUGH SOME TOUGH TIMES.
I LOVE YOU, GRANDPA.
I LOVE YOU, TOO. AND I--
DAMN!
WHAT IS IT?


"IT'S SPIDER-MAN!"
THWIP
YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, FIRECRACKER.
NAW. YOU'VE BEEN TELLING ME FOR YEARS ABOUT SPIDER-MAN HAVING IT IN FOR YOU. I'M NOT GONNA LET HIM HURT YOU AGAIN.
YOU GET OUT OF HERE, GRANDPA. I GOT THIS.
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, DEAR. I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU FIGHT MY BATTLES FOR--
YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE YOUR FLIGHT SUIT AND I DO. YOU'D BE TOAST. AND WITH MOM GONE, YOU'RE ALL I GOT.
I CAN'T LET YOU GO TO PRISON AGAIN. I JUST CAN'T.
PLEASE GO, GRANDPA. PLEASE.

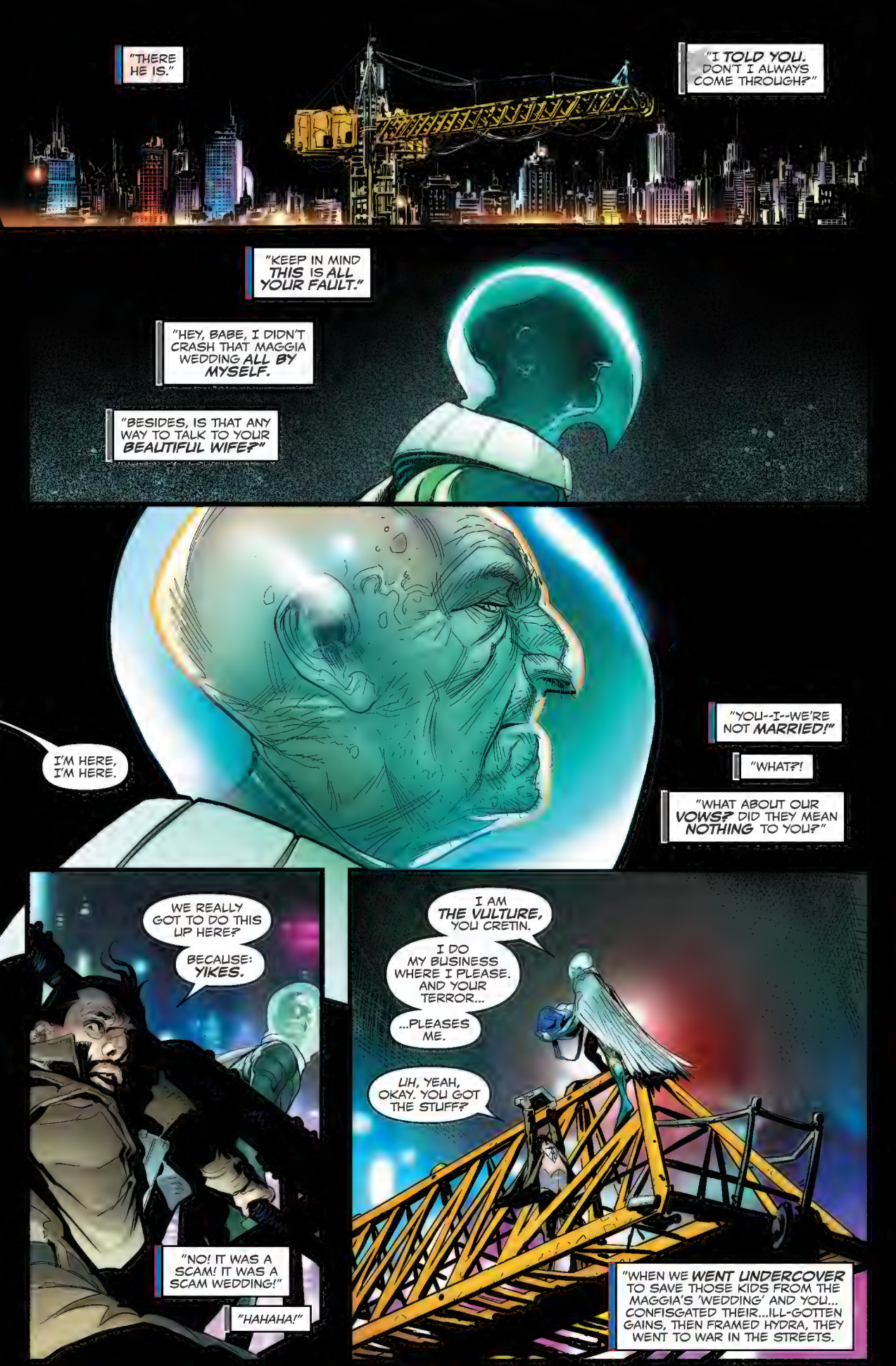
GAH! DANG PIGEONS! CAN'T YOU SEE I'M ON PATROL HERE? I--
LEAVE MY GRANDPA ALONE!
HUH? WHO ARE YOU?
WAS THAT PIGEON YOUR GRANDPA?

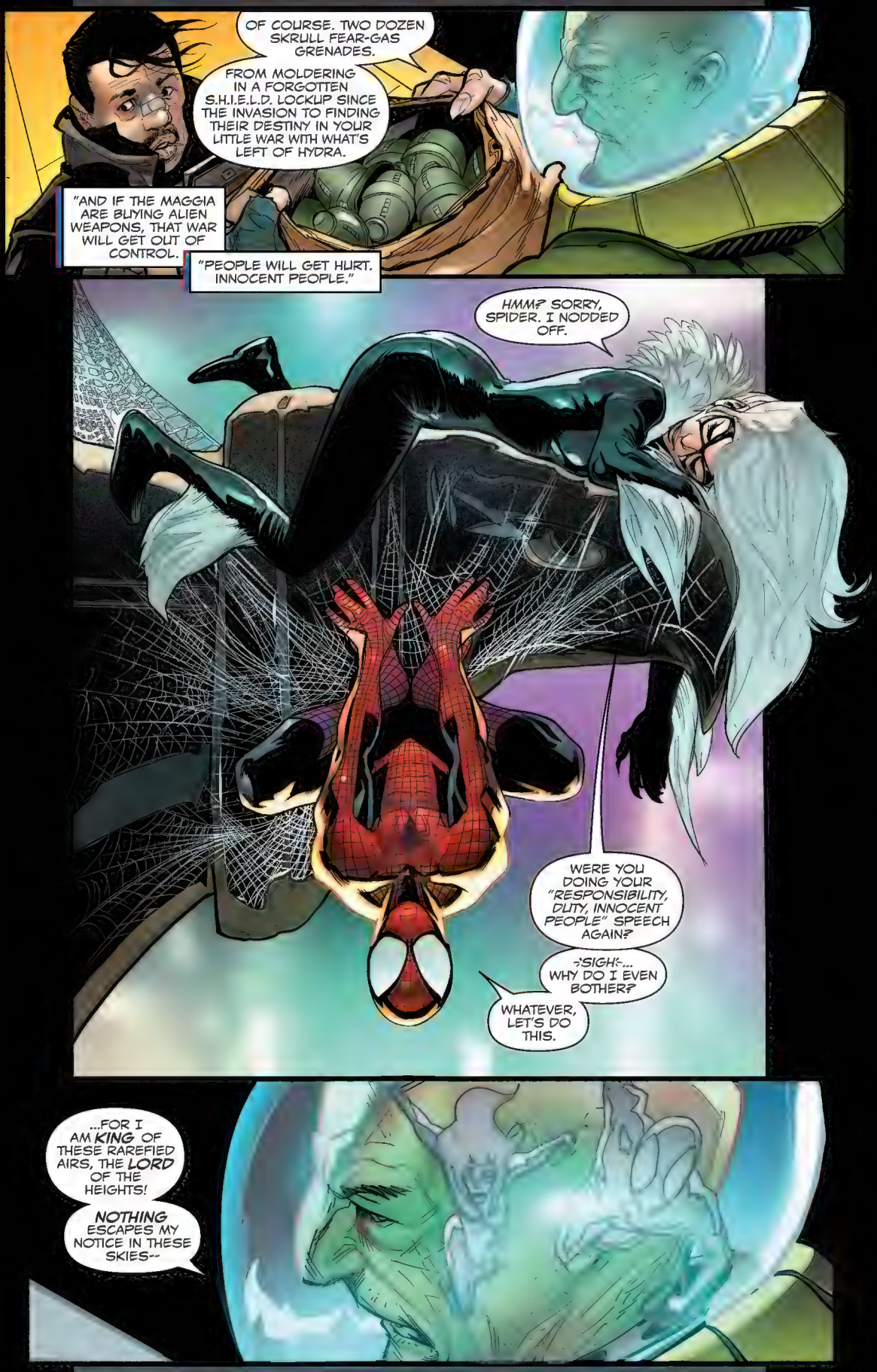
NAME'S STARLING. AND I DON'T WANNA HURT YOU, BUT I WILL IF YOU DON'T BACK OFF.
HI, I'M SPIDER-MAN. I'D BACK OFF, BUT I DIDN'T... FRONT IN?
THWIP
SHINK!
KRAK
DON'T YOU GOT ANYTHING BETTER TO DO THAN HUNT DOWN OLD MEN HAVING BRUNCH?
HOLD THE PHONE, I MISSED A BRUNCH INVITE? WHEN DID-- UNH!
THUMP
HE MIGHT BE THE VULTURE BUT HE'S MY GRANDPA, AND I WON'T LET YOU TAKE HIM AWAY!
VIP! VIP! VIP! VIP!


TIME TO SAY GOOD NIGHT!
TING
TING
TING
ACTUALLY, I DON'T THINK I'M READY TO--- YEEOWW!
VIP VIP VIP VIP
HOW ARE YOU STILL UP?! THESE ARE ELEPHANT TRANQUILIZERS!
I'M T-TOUGHER THAN I LOOK. AT LEAST YOU'RE LESS VICIOUS THAN YOUR GRANDPA.
DON'T COUNT ON IT. TIME FOR YOU TO CATCH HANDS.
LISTEN, I WASN'T EVEN LOOKING...FOR THE VULTURE, BUT SINCE WE'RE HERE...
YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DEFEND...A MURDERER?
A WHAT?!
MY GRANDPA'S DONE SOME SHADY THINGS, BUT HE'S NOT A MURDERER.
FWUP
S-SORRY TO BE THE ONE... TO TELL YOU, KID. BUT HE'S GOT... BLOOD ON HIS HANDS.

WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE...IF I HADN'T STOPPED HIM A FEW TIMES.
THE THINGS I'VE SEEN HIM DO WITH MY OWN EYES...
HE MIGHT BE YOUR GRANDPA... BUT ADRIAN TOOMES IS BAD NEWS.
YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME... GOOGLE VULTURE AND NATHAN LUBENSKY, OR THE GIBBON.
MEANWHILE, I'M GONNA TAKE A NAP. PLEASE DON'T BEAT ME UP WHILE I'M ASLEEP, OKAY?
THE COURTS, THE NEWS--HE ALWAYS SAID THEY WERE *LYING*...
ZzZz
...BUT MAYBE I'VE BEEN LYING TO MYSELF.
ZzZz
END.

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY 2020


"THERE HE IS."
"I TOLD YOU. DON'T I ALWAYS COME THROUGH?"
"KEEP IN MIND THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT."
"HEY, BABE, I DIDN'T CRASH THAT MAGGIA WEDDING ALL BY MYSELF.
"BESIDES, IS THAT ANY WAY TO TALK TO YOUR BEAUTIFUL WIFE?"
I'M HERE, I'M HERE.
"YOU--I--WE'RE NOT MARRIED!"
"WHAT?!
"WHAT ABOUT OUR VOWS? DID THEY MEAN NOTHING TO YOU?"
WE REALLY GOT TO DO THIS UP HERE?
BECAUSE: YIKES.
"NO! IT WAS A SCAM! IT WAS A SCAM WEDDING!"
"HAHAHA!"
I AM THE VULTURE, YOU CRETIN.
I DO MY BUSINESS WHERE I PLEASE. AND YOUR TERROR...
...PLEASES ME.
UH, YEAH, OKAY. YOU GOT THE STUFF?
"WHEN WE WENT UNDERCOVER TO SAVE THOSE KIDS FROM THE MAGGIA'S 'WEDDING' AND YOU... CONFISGATED THEIR...ILL-GOTTEN GAINS, THEN FRAMED HYDRA, THEY WENT TO WAR IN THE STREETS.


OF COURSE. TWO DOZEN SKRULL FEAR-GAS GRENADES.
FROM MOLDERING IN A FORGOTTEN S.H.I.E.L.D. LOCKUP SINCE THE INVASION TO FINDING THEIR DESTINY IN YOUR LITTLE WAR WITH WHAT'S LEFT OF HYDRA.
"AND IF THE MAGGIA ARE BUYING ALIEN WEAPONS, THAT WAR WILL GET OUT OF CONTROL.
"PEOPLE WILL GET HURT. INNOCENT PEOPLE."
HMM? SORRY, SPIDER. I NODDED OFF.
WERE YOU DOING YOUR "RESPONSIBILITY, DUTY, INNOCENT PEOPLE" SPEECH AGAIN?
-SIGH-... WHY DO I EVEN BOTHER?
WHATEVER, LET'S DO THIS.
...FOR I AM KING OF THESE RAREFIED AIRS, THE LORD OF THE HEIGHTS!
NOTHING ESCAPES MY NOTICE IN THESE SKIES--

WHAM-MM
KRSSHH
GAAH!
HEY, FUN FACT...
...DID YOU KNOW THAT THERE ARE SPIDERS IN AUSTRALIA THAT EAT BIRDS?
WILD, RIGHT?
SPIDER-MAN! YOU LITTLE--
WITH THAT IN MIND, WHAT'S A LITTLE KICK IN THE HEAD BETWEEN PALS, HUH, ADRIAN?
THE DON AIN'T GOING TO BE HAPPY ABOUT THIS ONE...
HEY HEY...
...WHAT DO YOU GOT IN THAT BRIEFCASE, BUD?
COME ON, ADRIAN. GIVE UP THE GOODS.
YOU DON'T WANT TO CATCH A BEATING, AND WHIPPING ON A SENIOR CITIZEN'S JUST GOING TO FEED THE "THREAT OR MENACE" MACHINE.
HOW?!
HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY FIND OUT ABOUT THIS DEAL?!

OH, THAT WAS ME.
HI, ADRIAN.
GAHH!
KLUD
OF COURSE. THE BLACK CAT.
SPIDER-MAN'S LITTLE SNITCH.
RUDE!
HOW DARE YOU CALL YOURSELF A THIEF, WORKING WITH THAT WALL-CRAWLER. HOW DARE YOU!
AND AFTER I OFFERED YOU A SPOT ON THE SAVAGE SIX!
I'M A STICKY-FINGERED RECIDIVIST THROUGH AND THROUGH, ADRIAN.
I JUST HATE YOU, THAT'S ALL.
BECAUSE YOU SUCK.
AND YOU'RE OLD.
THAT'S NOT VERY NICE, CAT.
YOU'RE RIGHT-- I APOLOGIZE, ADRIAN. I DON'T HATE YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE OLD.
I HATE YOU BECAUSE YOU SUCK.
WILL YOU TWO IDIOT CHILDREN
SHUT
UP?!

YOU MORONS! YOU ABSOLUTE BUFFOONS!
ALL YOU DO, THE TWO OF YOU!
TALK, TALK, TALK!
HEY, DO YOU WANT TO GET SUSHI AFTER THIS?
I HAD SUSHI FOR LUNCH. TACOS?
AAARGHH!!!
HA! GOTCHA!
FEH! YOU'LL NOT CAPTURE ME THAT EASILY!
TELL ME, BLACK CAT...
YEEP!
...ARE YOU AFRAID OF HEIGHTS?
BEEP
MAN, YOU ARE CORNY.
FINE, GO ON.
KEEP YOUR STUPID FEAR-GAS GRENADES.
SEE IF I CARE.
HAHA! THE VULTURE RULES THE SKIES!

OKAY. NO FEAR. HE'S GOT ME.
HE'S ALWAYS GOT ME.
FELICIA! ARE YOU OKAY?
WHOOF!
PURRR-FECT, SPIDER.
THANKS FOR THE SAVE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE GOT AWAY.
OH, I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT.
WHAT DID YOU DO?
ME? OH, NOTHING.
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
OH NO.
"I JUST THINK HE'S GOING TO RUN INTO...
"...SOME BAD LUCK."
FOOSH!
AAAAAIIEEEE!!!

Later.
BUT I ALREADY ATE SUSHI TODAY! AND THIS TIME IN ASTORIA NO LESS!
QUIT YOUR MOANING. I PAID FOR IT, DIDN'T I?
LORD, MY MERCURY LEVELS ARE GOING TO BE THROUGH THE ROOF.
LOOK, I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK, AND THIS IS AS GOOD AN OPPORTUNITY AS ANY:
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
WHY, WHATEVER DO YOU MEAN?
FELICIA,
WHAT
ARE
YOU
UP TO?

FIRST I HEAR THAT SILVER SABLE BROKE INTO DOCTOR STRANGE'S PAD--
WOW, YOU THINK YOU KNOW SOMEONE--
--THEN I HEAR THAT YOU WERE AT THE FANTASTIC FOUR'S PLACE--
AND STOPPED AN ALIEN INVASION.
--THEN DANNY RAND TELLS ME YOU BROKE INTO HIS BUILDING, WITH THE BEETLE--
I DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING--
--AND THEN, TONY STARK COMES TO ME ALL IN A LATHER, WANTING TO KNOW ABOUT YOU!
WHAT CAN I SAY? I'M AN IT GIRL.
AND YOUR CREW, FROM THE MAGGIA WEDDING? THEY BEAT ME UP ONE TIME, BACK WHEN WE FIRST MET!
WAIT, SERIOUSLY?
I THOUGHT THEY WERE LYING...

LOOK, SPIDER...
I DO THINGS YOU DON'T LIKE. YOU DO THINGS I DON'T LIKE.
LIKE WHAT?!
LIKE SHACKING UP WITH REDHEADS.
THOUGH SERIOUSLY, YOU'RE SHACKED UP WITH BOOMERANG NOW? REALLY? BOOMERANG?
ERR...
OUR RELATIONSHIP--OUR FRIENDSHIP--IS A WEIRD BALANCE.
MAYBE I'M RUNNING A CAPER. OR MAYBE THOSE ARE ALL JUST COINCIDENCES. BUT YOU KNOW ME WELL ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT I'M NOT GOING TO HURT ANYONE.
OR NOT ANYONE WHO DOESN'T HAVE IT COMING, AT LEAST.
I GUESS THAT'S AS GOOD AN ANSWER AS I'M GOING TO GET, ISN'T IT?
PRETTY MUCH. DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, SPIDER.
HAVE YOU MET ME? ALL I DO IS WORRY ABOUT THE PEOPLE IN MY LIFE.
HA!
SPEAKING OF WHICH, DO YOU THINK THE VULTURE'S GOING TO BE OKAY?
"HONESTLY?
"WHO CARES?"

SPIDERS THAT EAT BIRDS!
SPIDERS THAT EAT BIRDS!
CATS AND SPIDERS THAT EAT BIRDS!
The End.

#48 VARIANT BY
MARK BAGLEY, JOHN DELL & JASON KEITH

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN THE SINS OF NORMAN OSBORN
VARIANT BY CASANOVAS

#48 HEROES AT HOME VARIANT BY
GURIHIRU & ZEB WELLS

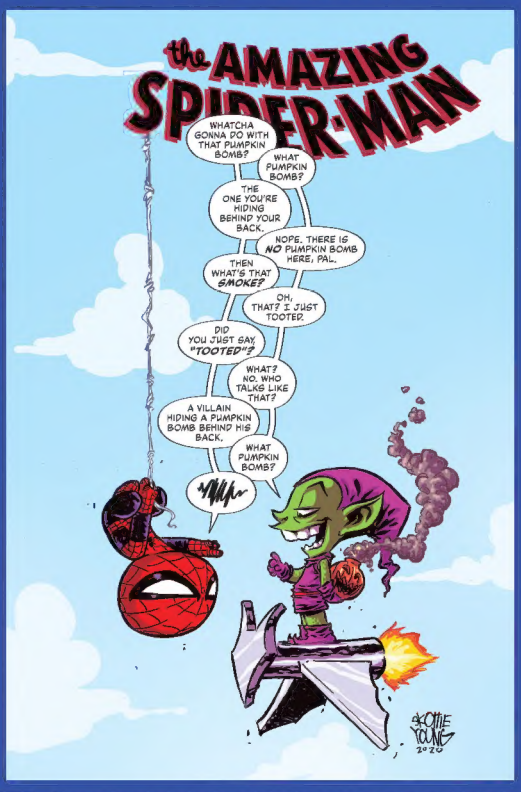
#49 VARIANT BY MAHMUD ASRAR

#49 VARIANT BY JOE QUESADA, DANNY MIKI & RICHARD ISANOVE

#49 VARIANT BY BRUCE TIMM

#49 VARIANT BY
MARK BAGLEY, JOHN DELL & MORRY HOLLOWELL

#49 VARIANT BY
NICK BRADSHAW & EDGAR DELGADO


the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
WHATCHA GONNA DO WITH THAT PUMPKIN BOMB?
WHAT PUMPKIN BOMB?
THE ONE YOU'RE HIDING BEHIND YOUR BACK.
NOPE. THERE IS NO PUMPKIN BOMB HERE, PAL.
THEN WHAT'S THAT SMOKE?
OH, THAT? I JUST TOOTED.
DID YOU JUST SAY "TOOTED"?
WHAT? NO. WHO TALKS LIKE THAT?
A VILLAIN HIDING A PUMPKIN BOMB BEHIND HIS BACK.
WHAT PUMPKIN BOMB?
SKOTTIE YOUNG 2020

#49 VARIANT BY
SKOTTIE YOUNG

#49 VARIANT BY
OLIVIER COIPEL

#49 VARIANT BY
PATRICK GLEASON & EDGAR DELGADO

#49 VARIANT BY
INHYUK LEE

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"A breakdown of what makes Spider-Man tick, and perhaps one of the finest and most introspective looks at the Green Goblin and Spider-Man dynamic ever made." – AIPT

HOW FAR CAN SPIDER-MAN STRETCH

BEFORE HE BREAKS?

NICK SPENCER AND A HOST OF LEGENDARY CREATORS celebrate 850 issues of *Amazing Spider-Man* – by pushing the web-slinger harder than ever before! The resurrected Sin-Eater has leveled up thanks to Kindred – and just as his reign of terror reaches riot level, the Green Goblin returns! Norman Osborn is back – and his troubled past will haunt both him and Peter Parker. Spidey has been through a lot over the years, but even his worst moments have just been a prelude to this! Can he get by with a little help from his friends? Miles Morales, Spider-Woman, Ghost-Spider, Spider-Girl and Madame Web assemble as the Order of the Web is born!

COLLECTING ***AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (2018) #48-49***, ***AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: THE SINS OF NORMAN OSBORN*** AND MATERIAL FROM ***FREE COMIC BOOK DAY 2020 (SPIDER-MAN/VENOM)*** – BY NICK SPENCER, KURT BUSIEK, SALADIN AHMED, TRADD MOORE, JED MACKAY, MARK BAGLEY, AARON KUDER, CHRIS BACHALO, HUMBERTO RAMOS, RYAN OTTLEY, FEDERICO VICENTINI, PATRICK GLEASON, JOHN DELL, CLIFF RATHBURN, TIM TOWNSEND, VICTOR OLAZABA, DAVID CURIEL, EDGAR DELGADO, FRANK D'ARMATA, NATHAN FAIRBAIRN AND TAMRA BONVILLAIN.

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